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'ARAFAT CALLS FOR TAKING PALESTINIAN PROBLEM BACK TO UN

LD2?1701 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 25 May 79 pp 1,3 LD

[Interview granted by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Jihad al-Khazin in Beirut--date not given]

[Text] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has called for going back to the United Nations to solve the Palestinian problem and has accused President Carter's administration of being involved in a conspiracy against the Palestinian people and their international recognized rights, a conspiracy that is being matched by Israel and Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat, whom he describes as an Arab "quisling."

Abu 'Ammar was talking in an exclusive 2-hour interview with ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in his office in Beirut. The following is the text of the interview:

[Question] All the Arabs outside Egypt have attacked the peace treaty with Israel, but what is the Palestinian alternative to it?

[Answer] The Palestinian alternative is the United Nations. There is also the joint Soviet-U.S. statement which the two superpowers issued in October 1977. More important still is whether what is needed is to search for a new "quisling" in our Arab nation or to search for a solution to the problem. If a solution is needed, then there is a well-known way to solve the problem on the international plane. This calls for recognizing the Palestinian people's inalienable rights, including the right to return, the right to self-determination and the right to establish an independent state. But if they are looking for a new "quisling" in our nation, then they will find no Palestinian or Arab for this.

Recent events have proved that our expectations were correct and our views were right. The U.S. stand, through its involvement in this conspiracy against the Palestinian people, has transgressed all the red lines. It has done so by demanding, together with Begin, a total surrender to the Israeli logic. Even the racist ultras in South Africa and Rhodesia have been ashamed to offer the black nationals what is being offered to our Arab nation and the Palestinian people. I would like to ask: Is there a village in the world that is not in control of the water that it drinks or the land that it tills, as Begin wants, as As-Sadat approves and as Carter endorses? And yet they talk about peace, while in fact they mean surrender.

[Question] Do you believe that the break between President as-Sadat and the other Arab leaders is final? Is there any way to remedy the situation?

[Answer] I believe that what As-Sadat has done is the gravest thing that an Arab, or Muslim or nationalist leader can do. Never in the contemporary or ancient history of our nation has anybody abandoned Jerusalem. Never has an Arab ruler given up the rights of our Arab nation, including the Palestinian people's rights, without having been militarily defeated. I would like to remind the Egyptian military command--some of whose members are still alive--that in 1972 and 1973 an offer was made for an initial Israeli withdrawal from Ra's Muhammad to Al-'Arish in return for Egypt's withdrawal from the Arab fold and for allowing shipping passage through the Suez Canal. I would like also to remind the Egyptian command that during the war of attrition the whole of Sinai was offered in return for Egypt's withdrawal from the Arab fold and abandoning the Palestinian people's rights.

As-Sadat has given up all these things for the cheapest price. He took incomplete sovereignty over a handful of Sinai sand in return for Jerusalem. In his enmity toward the Arab nation As-Sadat has gone far and beyond all expectations and all personal, patriotic, national, Arab and religious norms. The question is no longer whether or not As-Sadat will return [to the Arab fold], for he has entered history the same way as Al-'Alqami, who surrendered Baghdad.

[Question] What is your opinion of President as-Sadat's claim that he would not have dared to do what he has done if he did not believe that the other Arab leaders implicitly approve his steps and, therefore, are jointly responsible because they did not make the extent of their opposition clear to him from the beginning?

[Answer] As-Sadat did believe this. This was what his American masters made him understand. They told him that they would exert pressures and make every effort, which indeed they did. But with their computer mentality they did not appraise the reality of the Arab stand. This stand emerged clear and strong at the Baghdad summit conference and the foreign ministers conference as well as at the conference of Awqaf ministers and ulemas in Jidda.

The resolutions that were issued by these conferences are the only practical answer to this conspiracy which they call "peace treaty" and which we call "Camp David agreement for false peace." As-Sadat has erred and so did the U.S. administration, because Egypt's weight and leadership lie in its Arab position and not in the number of its population. The size of the population is not basic. The Arab nation has suffered a great deal from the Zionist entity whose population so far is no more than 3 million people.

[Question] What is your opinion of the U.S. stand toward peace in the Middle East in general and U.S.-Palestinian relations in particular?

[Answer] There are no Palestinian-U.S. relations. As for the U.S. stand toward the Middle East problem, it is blatantly biased in favor of the Zionist aggression against the Palestinian people and the Arab nation.

Where are the human rights that Carter boasts about? The U.S. administration and the American and Western media are defending 30 dissidents in the Soviet Union while they do not make a move in the face of the conspiracy of murdering the Palestinian people that is taking place daily with various weapons, even with internationally banned weapons such as concussion, fragmentation and napalm bombs. They also deny the Palestinian people's rights which have been recognized in international and human rights charters--their right to self-determination and to live in an independent state. President Carter still sees the area through Israeli eyes. I believe that the secret behind this is the fact that U.S. interests have not yet been touched, so they do not feel concern or anxiety or even care in the United States. We should not forget that the economic theory by which the United States lives is the theory of free economy and that its philosophical theory is that of political expediency, which reacts only to direct material interests. The many definitions of right in dictionaries are of no significance. The Americans now need to recall once again President Wilson's charter after World War I.

[Question] What do you suggest as a solution to the problem that the U.S. insists that you recognize Resolution 242, but your insistence on recognition of the PLO first?

[Answer] This is the U.S. view of things. It is only the Israeli criterion, the Israeli interests and the insistence that the victim must pay the price and recognize its killer that matters to them.

The aggressors are not asked to rectify their mistakes. I would like to ask: Why this insistence on a stand that was brought about by a U.S. secretary of state, namely Henry Kissinger, who conspired against the Palestinian people when he was in charge of the State Department? Why does the United States not recall its international commitments at the United Nations, all the resolutions that it has voted for but has failed to abide by so far. Indeed it is now ignoring them by ignoring the Palestinian people and their inalienable rights. The Americans must recall that their recognition of Israel in 1947 was coupled by an obligation to recognize the Palestinian people and their independent state. The Americans must also bear in mind that no peace, no solution and no stability can be achieved if they continue to ignore these Palestinian rights, which represent the difficult and basic point in the Middle East equation.

What is happening in the Middle East now--the unpleasant surprises to the U.S. policies and interests, whether because of the Iranian revolutionaries under Imam Khomeyni's leadership or of the resolutions being adopted at Arab and Islamic conferences against the deviation of the Egyptian leadership and As-Sadat--may make the Americans better understand the truth about the equation in this area.

Jerusalem first, Jerusalem second and Jerusalem third; as well as the full rights of the Palestinian people.

I am emphasizing Jerusalem here in response to Begin's nonsense that says that Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Israel. I would recall that their state in Palestine about which they have been talking for thousands of years lasted only 70 years on our territory.

[Question] You have previously strongly rejected the forthcoming self-rule negotiations. It appears that the chances of these negotiations succeeding are almost nil. But what can the Palestinian resistance do to foil self-rule if it is imposed according to Israeli terms?

[Answer] The surprising Palestinian answer to the conspiracy is our noble people. Carter, Begin and As-Sadat and their media have been vying with one another in trying to show that this people is separated from its revolution and leadership, which is represented in the PLO. What is happening in the occupied territories now--the united stand and the solidarity between our people in the West Bank and Gaza and even among our brothers in the Galilee and the Negev who are standing fast in the face of the occupation force since 1948--is the best proof of the nobility of this people.

This, however, does not mean that there are some people who are making moves here and there. But their moves are insignificant in the face of the movement of history and they will be severely dealt with. With regard to the [Palestinian] delegation which the Egyptian administration is talking about, I would ask that reference should be made to the Egyptian police records that show that members of such delegations are wanted by the Egyptian police because they are either drug merchants, or smugglers or agents.

Our people's unanimous stand was made obvious in the official petitions that were signed by the trade unions, associations, municipalities, public figures and strugglers. Copies of these petitions are kept by UN Secretary General Waldheim. They all reflect the nobility of this people and their pride in their revolution and leader of their struggle, the PLO, and their rejection of the proposed farce of self-administration, and not self-rule. Because what is being offered is no more than managing the sewers. The municipalities in their present form have more powers than what is being offered.

[Question] Is it possible to explain to us the nature of Palestinian-Iranian relations? Has cooperation and coordination begun to bear fruit and, if so, how?

[Answer] We are very proud of the deep and strategic relations that bind us to our Iranian revolutionary brothers and the Iranian people and their wise leadership represented in His Eminence Imam Khomeyni. This relationship is not new; it is rather ancient and is developing daily in the interest of our nation and of our common causes. It would suffice to mention the firm resolution announced by his eminence the imam to boycott the Egyptian regime despite the amount of the debts that Egypt owes Iran since the shah's era. The resolution in question came even before the firm stand adopted at Fes conference. Moreover, the Iranian brothers have declared that they consider themselves a confrontation state. I must point out what the Palestinian revolution is doing to further strengthen solidarity between our Arab nation and th. heroic Iranian people, as this will have an impact of a strategic nature on the confrontation which the Americans are threatening with regard to our land, oil and natural resources.

We are aware that because of these successes in the Palestinian-Iranian relations and its positive effects on the Arab nation many people are resorting to intrigues and rumors. But I tell them: May you die from anger. The relations are strong and solid and will grow stronger every day. The Iranian revolutionaries are genuine fighters, and we have known their true mettle for a long time.

[Question] What is the situation with regard to Palestinian relations with the Arab countries now, particularly with Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria?

[Answer] We in the Palestinian revolution are proud of the brotherly relations that link us to our brothers in the Arab nation, including the relations with the Egyptian people.

Recent events have proved the strength of these relations despite the attempts by hostile forces to disturb them. Such attempts have failed. It would suffice to mention the recent statements by His Highness [Saudi Deputy Prime Minister] Amir Fahd in Paris, Bonn, Rome and Riyadh regarding Jerusalem, the Palestinian people and their rights to a state, and their sole leadership--the PLO. I would also mention the statements of His Highness Amir 'Abdallah and, over above all this, His Majesty Khalid's declaration of jihad to liberate Jerusalem, when he met with the Arab and Muslim awqaf ministers.

As for our relations with our Syrian brothers, we are with them in the frontline trench which is now fighting against the Israeli onslaught. We should not forget that Israeli threats are first directed against us and second against our Syrian brothers. Our relations are strategic and we are anxious to further strengthen them. We are also anxious to strengthen our relations with our Iraqi brothers so as to be able to build the northeastern front as a fighting front that can stand against the Israeli-U.S. war machine, particularly now that Egypt has left the struggle arena temporarily.

With regard to Lebanon we strongly want to preserve the unity of the Lebanese territory, and we are anxious to see the Lebanese brothers reach a comprehensive agreement among themselves. As fighters and strugglers we will not forget how much the Lebanese people are suffering and how they share our difficulties through thick and thin. In my opinion the Lebanese solution lies only in a Lebanese national accord.

With regard to our relations with Jordan, we are very anxious to preserve them, particularly following the recent agreements with King Husayn and the Jordanian Government, as well as to strengthen and develop such relations.

[Question] What would happen if in the end a solution was imposed in the Middle East at the expense of the Palestinian national rights?

[Answer] We would bring down the temple on all those who are in it. The United States must realize that it should not try to corner a cat, or rather a Palestinian tiger. Furthermore, we are not afraid of the threats of the terrorist Begin who says that Israel will resort to methods which would not occur even to the devil or of terrorist 'Ezer Weizman's statement in which he said: "We will strike at the Palestinians everywhere and with the most up-to-date military methods which our army has used since it was formed."

PALESTINIAN, LEBANESE JOINT COMMAND MEETS 28 MAY

JN290704 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0500 GMT 29 May 79 JN

[Text] The Joint Command of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement held a meeting last night under the chairmanship of brother Abu 'Ammar.

The Joint Command discussed the continued Zionist aggression against the towns and villages of southern Lebanon and Palestinian refugee camps, and the threats made by enemy leaders to strike at Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution.

The Joint Command discussed the aggression by the agent Sa'd Haddad against the population in southern Lebanon and against Palestinian refugee camps. This aggression is supported and backed by the Zionist enemy. They also discussed Haddad's ultimatums to the population to join his ministate.

The Joint Command adopted a number of important measures to confront the Zionist-isolationist aggression.

KUWAIT

GOVERNMENT DENIES SELLING OIL ABOVE POSTED PRICE

LD250850 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0735 GMT 25 May 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn denied in a statement published today that Kuwait is selling its oil at a price other than the posted price.

In the statement which AL-ANBA' published today, the minister was commenting on the declaration by the Japanese oil industry sources that Japanese oil importers have turned down an offer for the purchase of about 150,000 barrels of Kuwaiti oil from the free market at $31 a barrel.

Husayn said that Kuwait sells its crude oil in accordance with the contracts system and not through the free market, because fundamentally it had put a ceiling to its production of crude oil. However, he added, what happened recently was that one of the contracting companies withdrew from one of the deals, and that deal was then made on the free market at the posted price.

AL-ANBA' SAYS USSR WILL NOT OPPOSE SINAI FORCE DECISION

LD261010 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0812 GMT 26 May 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--A Kuwaiti paper says today that the Soviet Union has expressed its readiness to be bound by what the Arab countries agree on regarding the renewal of the period of service of the international forces in Sinai when the matter is put before the UN Security Council, despite its opposition in principle to this renewal.

AL-ANBA' reports Arab diplomatic sources as saying that the first Soviet contact in this matter came during the meeting of the Soviet ambassador here, Nikolay Sikachev, with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Kuwait Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah during last week.

They go on to add that Kuwait in turn contacted Syria following Soviet assurances that the United States and a number of Western members of the Security Council will not agree to the renewal for the international forces operating in the Golan in the event the Sinai forces' service was not renewed.

The sources have stated that his matter was bound to heat up the Syrian front, and this is what Israel and the United States want.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS WITHDRAWING FUNDS FROM BANK OF EGYPT

JN261036 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1015 GMT 26 May 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 26 May--The newspaper AL-ANBA' reports here today that a Kuwaiti Government committee has recommended withdrawing Kuwaiti deposits from Egyptian banks, which are estimated at well over $1 billion. This comes in implementation of the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference resolutions. The paper adds that the committee has referred its recommendation to the Kuwaiti Cabinet.

The paper says it was recommended that Kuwaiti deposits in the Egyptian central bank not be extended and that the bank be given a 3-month grace period to repay deposits when they come due.

The committee was formed to study Kuwaiti relations with the Egyptian regime in light of the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference resolutions.

TUNISIAN MINISTER MZALI ARRIVES WITH MESSAGES FROM BOURGUIBA

LD271005 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0840 GMT 27 May 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 27 May--Mohamed Mzali, the Tunisian minister of national education, arrived in Kuwait this morning from Riyadh on the second leg of his gulf tour as personal envoy of President Habib Bourguiba. He is carrying messages from the Tunisian president to leaders of the countries he is visiting dealing with Arab issues and ways to activate the Arab League following its transfer to Tunis from Cairo.

It is believed that the messages include a Tunisian invitation for an emergency session of the Arab League Council to be held at ministerial level in Tunis on 27 June.

Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Rashid ar-Rashid declared yesterday that his country has agreed to the Tunisian proposal.

Mzali Departure

LD271400 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1245 GMT 27 May 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 27 May--Mohammed Mzali, Tunisian minister of national education and special envoy of Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba, left Kuwait today for Abu Dhabi at the end of a short visit on a third leg of his gulf tour.

The Tunisian envoy said in a statement to KUNS that he delivered a message from President Bourguiba to Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah on the subject of the Arab League following the transfer of its headquarters from Tunis to Cairo.

He said that Tunisia has proposed holding an extraordinary meeting of the Arab League at the league's new headquarters in Tunis next month to elect a new Arab League secretary general to succeed Mahmud Riyad, who resigned early last April.

He said there are four candidates for the post. They are: acting Arab League Secretary General and Lebanese nominee As'ad al-As'ad, Tunisian Information Minister Chadli Klibi, Iraqi Awqaf Minister Dr Ahmad 'Abd as-Sattar al-Juwari and Syrian diplomat 'Abdallah al-Khani.

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR BEERSHEBA AUTONOMY TALKS

NC241115 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1110 GMT 25 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 24 May--Members of the Egyptian delegation to the autonomy discussions today left for Beersheba, where the meeting will begin this afternoon. It will be attended by the Egyptian, Israeli and U.S. delegations. The delegation includes Defense Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, Maj Gen Labib Sharab and nine technicians.

The meeting is expected to begin at 1400 today.

'Ali Replaces Khalil

NC251827 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1421 GMT 25 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 25 May--MENA has learned that Israel expressed the wish that Israeli Interior Minister Yosef Burg should head the meeting being held in Beersheba. MENA also learned that during the contact held between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the United States, Egypt proposed that this meeting should not have a specific chairman or else that the U.S. secretary of state, Cyrus Vance, should head the meeting.

In view of the Israeli interior minister's insistence on heading the meeting and in keeping with current protocol, it was not possible for Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil to attend a meeting headed by the Israeli interior minister.

President as-Sadat agreed that the prime minister should not take part in this meeting and that Egyptian Defense Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali should head the Egyptian delegation and deliver Egypt's statement as prepared by Dr Mustafa Khalil and formerly scheduled to be delivered by him.

Ghali Statement on Meeting

NC251815 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1735 GMT 25 May 79 NC

[Text] Beersheba, 25 May--Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali made a statement after the conclusion of the closed meeting of the first session of talks held between the three delegations in Beersheba on the establishment of a Palestinian authority in the West Bank and Gaza. He said that agreement has been reached on the following four points:

1. The next meeting will be held in Alexandria on 6 and 7 June.

2. At this meeting, the final agenda of the talks and the method of work and the formation of the technical committees which will carry out work will be debated and agreed upon.

3. At the Alexandria meeting, the date and venue of the next meeting will be decided.

4. The necessary steps should be taken to insure the continuation of the talks in an effective manner that will insure the complete definition of the arrangements to establish Palestinian authority and of its powers and responsibilities in accordance with the complementary agreement signed on 26 March.

In his statement, Dr Butrus Ghali also said that today's meeting provided practical proof of the organic and realistic link between the moves on the Egyptian and Palestinian fronts. The negotiations on full self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza, he said, began on the same day Egypt regained the town of Al-'Arish and the northern sector of Sinai.

Dr Ghali reaffirmed Egypt's determination to eliminate the suffering of the Palestinian people living under occupation and to begin the transitional period which will mark a change in the status of the military occupation as well as the abolition of the occupation authority and a number of other measures. At the same time, he said, we will be paving the way for fulfillment of the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

'Ali Statement

NC251958 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 May 79 NC

[Text] Defense Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali stated after the closed meeting held in Beersheba by the delegations of Egypt, the United States and Israel that the negotiations will be difficult and hard but efforts will be made to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the problem.

He added that the Israeli viewpoint expressed by Israeli Interior Minister Yosef Burg was intransigent. This, Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali said, is the method of negotiations.

Lieutenant General 'Ali said that Egypt's speech at the meeting expressed Egypt's position. Egypt, he added, is striving to put the Palestinians on the right course. The negotiators, he said, have not entered into the details. He added that the handing over of Al-'Arish and the commencement of the talks on self-rule today have great significance, because they underscore the real linkage between the Camp David frameworks and the peace treaty, the aim being to achieve a lasting and comprehensive settlement. He said that Egypt has respect for every word in the agreement, whether regarding the size or armament of the forces.

Commenting on the claims made by the rejection states about the Egyptian Armed Forces, Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that the rejection states have frequently claimed that there were coups in the armed forces. He added that if one adds up the number of those arrested according to the rejection states' claims, it exceeds 2,000. This is a lie and an illusion, he said, for the Egyptian Armed Forces know their duty and believe in the objectives of their homeland. Furthermore, he added, they are disciplined forces quite detached from politics. They only do their duty, he said.

He added that the Egyptian Armed Forces are part of the Egyptian people who have voiced their opinion on many occasions as demonstrated in the reception accorded the president on his return from Jerusalem, after the Camp David agreements and the signing of the peace treaty, and in the latest referendum.

The defense minister said the entire area of Abu Rudays will be handed over after 1 month, and it will then be possible to commence local government in the Governorate of Southern Sinai, which will have At-Tur as its capital. The armed forces, in participation with the Agrarian Reform Ministry, will take over the farm there and will administer and develop the farm.

Ghali Interview

NC252040 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1850 GMT 25 May 79 NC

["Dialog With Official" program: San'a' as-Sa'id dialog with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali]

[Excerpts] Question: Your Excellency Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, we want to learn more about the autonomy negotiations. For instance, we ask if public opinion is confused by the special negotiations which will go on at Beersheba and the meeting to be held between President as-Sadat and Mr Begin in Al-'Arish.

Answer: In fact, there is a difference between the two meetings. The first is a summit meeting whereas the second meeting, which will be held in Beersheba, is a special meeting at ministerial level. The second difference is that the first meeting will deal with the crisis, or rather the question of the Middle East in the broad sense. The second meeting will be dedicated to a specific issue; namely, that of full autonomy for both the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. In fact, since the beginning of the negotiations, that is, since his excellency the president's trip to Jerusalem in November 1977, there has been a kind of duplication in diplomatic action. There are negotiations on withdrawal from Sinai and the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel. There are also other negotiations related to withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank and to establishing a future new relationship between Palestine and Israel. This duplication in diplomatic action has been continuing from the president's visit to Jerusalem up to this moment.

Question: What is the relationship between the first round of negotiations and the second?

Answer: There is a close relationship between these two kinds of negotiations: both aim at finding a comprehensive solution to the Middle East crisis--lasting and general peace as far as the issue is concerned. As the president has frequently said, we reject a partial solution, we reject a bilateral solution, and we do not want to achieve a third armistice or a third disengagement agreement. We seek a comprehensive solution. Therefore, the requirements of action to achieve a comprehensive solution dictate the holding of negotiations on the relations between Egypt and Israel and other special negotiations between the Palestinian people and Israel.

Question: Your Excellency, is it admissible to begin the implementation of autonomy in the West Bank?

Answer: In fact, the Foreign Ministry has conducted several studies--and these are mere ideas. In accordance with the Camp David agreements, there is a unity between the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. However, studies have been conducted: if there should be difficulties in holding elections in the West Bank, and if we achieve a framework for autonomy in both the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, then we will be able to begin as a first stage with elections in the Gaza Strip. Then we will hold elections in the West Bank. In this way the elections in the Gaza Strip will be a new incentive for the residents of the West Bank to participate in the election process and in the formation of full autonomy.

Question: Minister Dr Butrus Ghali, can we stop a moment to consider the ministerial committee which has been formed? Has this committee met? What has it done and who are its members?

Answer: Naturally, this ministerial committee is primarily formed of Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil, Defense Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, and the minister of state for foreign affairs. Later, Sharab [not further identified] and Ambassador Usamah al-Baz were appointed to serve on this committee. Thus it has become a five-member committee. However, there is a group of advisers and there are several technical committees in operation, whether these are technical committees functioning within the framework of the Defense Ministry or technical committees operating within the framework of the Foreign Ministry. These technical committees prepare technical studies, or position papers, as they are called in English, so that these committees can come up with ideas about some parts of the issue. Naturally, the question of autonomy in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are the subject of scores of studies.

Question: Mr Minister, the pressing question now is: How can we negotiate without the Palestinians being on the scene?

Answer: This is the traditional question. His Excellency Anwar as-Sadat has answered this question. He said that we are not now negotiating in the name of the Palestinians, but we are laying down a framework for the Palestinian people.

Question: The laying down of a framework also requires the presence of the party concerned in the matter.

Answer: At this point I can state that contacts are continuing with the Palestinian people. There are also various indirect contacts through organizations. We are maintaining continuing contacts with the Palestinian people. However, due to circumstances of which we are all aware, we realize that the Palestinian people do not now want an announcement on the contacts between the Egyptian negotiators and the Palestinian people. This is because the Palestinian people are waiting. As soon as the first results of the negotiations have crystallized, when we have achieved some positive results favorable to the Palestinian people, then the Palestinian people will participate. This participation might take place in the course of the second stage, which will begin with the elections; these might lead to the emergence of autonomy. In other words, I am in a position to say that the Palestinian people are exercising a kind of supervision over these negotiations. The question is: Who will participate in the elections? It will be the Palestinian people when they participate in the elections. The Palestinian people's participation in the upcoming elections will be a mere approval of what will have been achieved for them at the negotiations which will begin within the next few days.

Question: Let us move on to another subject concerning the meeting you held recently with General Siilasvuo. What took place at this meeting? What is the status of the United Nations Emergency Force [UNEF] in Egypt, and what will Egypt do if the negotiations culminate in the withdrawal of the UNEF?

Answer: As far as the UNEF is concerned, I can sum up the situation as follows: The United Nations was established to serve the UN member states. Therefore, the member states are required to serve the United Nations. The United Nations is an organ which acts to preserve international security and peace in the world.

Consequently, it is the duty of the United Nations to extend to the member states the services which these member states ask the United Nations to extend. If one state, two states, or a group of states ask for a United Nations emergency force to facilitate the keeping of peace and security and to act to implement the peace treaty, then it is the duty of the United Nations not to evade these commitments. I hope that the United Nations will assume this responsibility and that the UN Secretariat will have the same efficacy it had as in the time of Secretary General Hammarskjold.

Question: But what will Egypt do if the negotiations result in the withdrawal of the UNEF?

Answer: In accordance with the agreements which were signed in Washington, several other ideas were presented to station other international forces in the place of the UNEF. However, talk about this subject is premature. We are still confident that the United Nations will shoulder its responsibility and that it will directly or indirectly participate in international emergency forces to help bring about the Israeli withdrawal from the territories occupied after June 1967.

Question: Is it possible to give further information about Egyptian-Saudi relations and the U.S. mediation in this respect at this time?

Answer: In fact, at the present time I can say that I hope that Arab solidarity will overcome all the inter-Arab conflicts, as has happened in the past when various conflicts and confrontations occurred among the Arab states. Ultimately, Arab solidarity overcame these confrontations and conflicts.

'Ali on Sinai Withdrawal

NC252131 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1948 GMT 25 May 79 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 25 May--Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, defense minister and head of the Egyptian delegation to the negotiations on Palestinian self-rule, has stated that the peace process will continue whatever the difficulties, and that Egypt will strive to restore the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and all the peoples of the region.

Talking to reporters in a press conference on the plane on his way back to Cairo from Beersheba, Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that his speech at today's opening session of the negotiations on Palestinian self-rule expressed Egypt's views on the Palestine problem.

Answering a reporter's question, Lieutenant General 'Ali said that the speech of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance at the opening session of the negotiations clearly showed agreement between the Egyptian and U.S. positions on the Palestine question. The speech, he said, expressed a sound point of view on the basis that the United States is a full partner in the negotiations.

In his press conference, Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali also said that no decision has yet been made on the UN forces in relation to the next stages of withdrawal from Sinai, and the method of their participation in the implementation of the peace treaty. He said that both the Egyptian and Israeli sides will set up checkpoints on their lines and areas; including the 5 km buffer zone provided for in the treaty where UN forces are supposed to be stationed. In the absence of UN forces, the U.S. side will conduct the necessary patrols to insure the implementation by both sides of all the provisions of the agreement.

Ghali on International Force

NC270820 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0730 GMT 27 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 27 May--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has said that Egypt has drawn up studies to find an alternative to the UN forces in Sinai--namely, an international force drawn from neutral states such as Sweden, Norway and Finland, which would function independently in the event the renewal of the mandate of the UN Emergency Forces, which expires on 24 July, is obstructed.

Dr Ghali said: We have contacted all the Security Council member states in order to outline the importance of the presence of the UN forces in the coming phase.

In a statement published in ROSE AL-YUSUF magazine in its Monday edition, Ghali stressed that the United Nations is asked to help Egypt complete the Israeli withdrawal and consolidate peace in the Middle East. He said this could be done by securing the withdrawal operations and the security arrangements in accordance with the provisions and stipulations of the peace treaty and its annexes. We would thus be sure that the United Nations is continuing its mission.

In his statement, Ghali outlined the dimensions of Egyptian diplomacy in the coming phase and said: The difficult phase through which we are passing resulted from a deliberate lack of understanding or ignorance of the dimensions of the radical changes embarked upon by Egypt in solving the Arab-Israeli conflict.

He pointed out four main fields for Egyptian political moves in the coming phase:

1. The Palestine question, within the framework of the negotiations for autonomy of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

2. The nonalined states coordination office meeting next month in Kuala Lumpur, which will be a field for Egypt's moves.

3. The African states, within the framework of the conference of the heads of state of the OAU member states to be held in Monrovia in July. Ghali added that Egypt is contacting some African capitals, including Zambia, Senegal and Somalia, to coordinate stands at the bilateral level.

4. The international field and world problems.

Dr Ghali explained that Egypt's international commitments stem from its role and responsibility within the framework of the Third World and the North-South dialog, as well as its stand regarding international questions and disarmament and its leading role in international bodies.

AKBAR AL-YAWM OUTLINES PRINCIPLES ON AUTONOMY TALKS

NC260745 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0718 GMT 26 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 May--AKHBAR AL-YAWM reports today that Egypt's position on the autonomy talks is summed up in the need for an agreement on the general principles before the discussion of any details. It adds that Egypt believes that an agreement should be reached on the following three principles before discussing the details:

1. The method of the elections for the establishment of self-rule.

2. The jurisdictions of the autonomous government which will be set up after the elections to replace the Israeli military government and civilian administration in accordance with the Camp David accords. In other words, there should be no administrative duality or any authority in the West Bank and Gaza other than the Palestinian government.

3. The measures which the Israeli Government intends to adopt to prepare the appropriate atmosphere for the elections.

SECOND MEETING ON AUTONOMY POSTPONED FROM 6 TO 10 JUNE

NC281655 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1608 GMT 28 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 28 May--MENA has learned that the second meeting of the Egyptian-Israeli talks on granting autonomy for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip will be held on 10 June instead of 6 June as previously scheduled.

MENA has also learned that the Israeli delegation to the talks will include five Israeli ministers, including Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan.

Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil will head the Egyptian delegation to the talks. The Egyptian delegation will also include Defense Minister Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz and Maj Gen Labib Sharab.

AS-SADAT GOES TO AL-'ARISH, RAISES EGYPTIAN FLAG 26 MAY

NC260925 [Editorial Report NC] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 0855 GMT On 26 May, in a hookup with other Egyptian transmitters, begins a live relay from Al-'Arish airport to cover the arrival of President Anwar as-Sadat. According to the announcer, the grand imam of Al-Azhar, Pope Shinudah of the Egyptian Coptic Church, Vice President Husni Mubarak and Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil are present at the airport. The plane carrying President as-Sadat arrives at 0904 GMT. President as-Sadat, dressed in military uniform, and Mrs as-Sadat descend from the plane at 0906 GMT. As-Sadat shakes hands with well-wishers, and then performs thanksgiving prayers.

At 0918 GMT, President as-Sadat flies in a helicopter to the monument of the unknown soldier in the town of Al-'Arish.

At 0923 GMT, another announcer begins speaking from the monument of the unknown soldier in Al-'Arish. President as-Sadat arrives at the monument at 0933 GMT. The Egyptian national anthem is played. Two army officers place a wreath on the monument, the national anthem is again played and President as-Sadat leaves by motorcade at 0942 GMT.

President as-Sadat's motorcade arrives at a pavilion set up in the main square of Al-'Arish at 0951 GMT. He enters the pavilion amid applause. The Egyptian national anthem is played. Then four officers representing the main branches of the Egyptian Armed Forces present the Egyptian flag to President as-Sadat. President as-Sadat then tours the square carrying the Egyptian flag to the accompaniment of martial music. At 1004 GMT, President as-Sadat hands the flag to Defense Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali. Four officers then take the flag and prepare it before a mast set up in the middle of the square.

President as-Sadat, flanked by Vice President Mubarak and Defense Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, raises the flag over the mast at 1006 GMT. At 1008 GMT, President as-Sadat signs a document transferring the town of Al-'Arish from Egyptian armed forces control to Egyptian civilian administration. The Egyptian national anthem is played.

At 1013 GMT, President as-Sadat leaves the square in a motorcade on his way to An-Nasr Mosque.

At 1015 GMT, another announcer begins speaking from outside the Northern Sinai Governorate building. President as-Sadat arrives at the governorate building at 1016 GMT and leaves it at 1022 GMT.

At 1033 GMT, people are heard shouting repeatedly: "Palestine is Arab; Jerusalem is Arab; with soul, with blood we redeem you As-Sadat." At 1034 GMT, they are heard shouting: "March, march O As-Sadat, we are behind you in the liberation march; O As-Sadat, the son of dignity and the liberator of Sinai and Gaza."

At 1040 GMT, President as-Sadat's motorcade arrives at An-Nasr Mosque. According to the announcer, some citizens slaughter sheep on As-Sadat's arrival at the mosque. The prayers at the mosque start at 1043 GMT and end at 1053 GMT.

At 1055 GMT, President as-Sadat leaves the mosque and goes to a resthouse where he will be staying. The live relay ends at 1105 GMT.

AS-SADAT MEETS WITH BEGIN, VANCE IN AL-'ARISH

NC271003 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0958 GMT 27 May 79 NC

[Text] Al-'Arish, 27 May--At noon today, President Anwar as-Sadat received Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance in Al-'Arish. The meeting was attended by Vice President Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali and Defense Minister Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

On the Israeli side, the meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, Defense Minister Weizman and Interior Minister Yosef Burg.

CAIRO RADIO RELAYS MEETING WITH WAR WOUNDED AT AL-'ARISH

NC271149 [Editorial Report NC] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1104 GMT on 27 May, in a hookup with other Egyptian transmitters, begins a live relay from a hall in Al-'Arish. According to the announcer, the hall is full of Israeli and Egyptian soldiers who were wounded in the war. Israeli Prime Minister Menaham Begin, Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance arrive at the hall at 1109 GMT and are received with applause.

President as-Sadat begins speaking at 1110 GMT. Speaking in English, he greets President Carter, Vance and Begin. He asks all to look ahead with hope and optimism.

Israeli Prime Minister Begin begins speaking in English at 1113 GMT. He finishes his remarks at 1118 GMT and the announcer says he then shakes hands with President as-Sadat, Vice President Mubarak and Prime Minister Khalil.

Secretary of State Vance begins speaking at 1119 GMT. He says: On behalf of President Carter, I share your happiness on this memorable day. We join with you in thanking God that we are here to assert peace.

At 1120 GMT, Begin speaks again. Again speaking in English, he announces the opening of the borders between Egypt and Israel and the release of prisoners held by Israel.

After Begin's speech, the announcer describes the scene at the hall, saying that a large number of journalists are surrounding the president and Premier Begin and Vance. The relay ends at 1127 GMT.

As-Sadat Speech

NC271201 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1110 GMT 27 May 79 NC

[Speech by Egyptian President as-Sadat at his meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance with war wounded in Al-'Arish in English--Live]

[Text] In the name of God. Let me seize this opportunity to greet President Carter for sending his distinguished Secretary Vance to attend with Premier Begin and me the meeting of this great day. I seize this opportunity also to greet Premier Begin after we had our talks today and in which we have expressed our view to give every possible momentum for the peace process.

Let us be frank. Your historic gathering today crystallizes one of the greatest events of our time. This dramatizes the ultimate triumph of good against evil. It is a real symbol of our mutual commitment to the eradication of suffering and misery, in order to create a better world, one in which neighbors and cousins learn to live together in peace and harmony. You may rest assured that the great sacrifice did not go in vain. It paves the way for a new era of peace and security for all. While reviewing events of the past, some may look backward with sorrow and regret, but I urge every human being in this region to look ahead with hope and optimism. Let there be no more suffering and misery, let there be no more bloodshed between Arabs and Israel, let us proceed together to rekindling the beacon of life, compassion and fraternity. [applause]

Begin Speech

NC271257 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1113 GMT 27 May 79 NC

[Speech by Israeli Prime Minister Begin at meeting, together with Egyptian President as-Sadat and U.S. Secretary of State Vance, with war wounded in Al-'Arish; in English--live]

[Text] Mr President, Mr Secretary, members of the Egyptian and Israeli cabinets, soldiers heroes of Egypt, soldiers heroes of Israel, my glorious brothers: This is a unique meeting, perhaps the first in the annals not only of ours but of all nations. Fighting men who gave great sacrifices for their nations, wounded men, proud men who served their countries with their blood assembled together like a family shaking hands with each other and saying to each other: [words indistinct]. Five times we met on the battlefield. We fought. [Words indistinct] but from now on no more wars between us, no more [words indistinct] for the young men of Egypt and Israel, no more bereavement, no more sorrow. We make peace, we shall live in peace, we shall be good neighbors. Officers and soldiers of the Egyptian and Israel armies will continue to meet in amity, in understanding, in cooperation.

This is a symbolic meeting of the fighters, the wounded soldiers of Egypt and Israel. This is the greatness of the day. Let us give praise to our heavenly Father, to God almighty, that we live to see such a day after 31 years of a state of war. After five wars in which our friends in the thousands lost their lives, we pay honor to all of them in Egypt and Israel, and tens of thousands who were wounded.

Mr President, it is a moving moment in the lives of both of us and of our nations. How long is the road we already passed together until we meet in Al-'Arish, no more as enemies, no more even as [word indistinct] enemies as it happened already twice in the past, but as friends, as good neighbors, in understanding and above all with this promise in our hearts: no more war, everlasting peace.

And to you, Mr Secretary, I would like, I am sure together with President as-Sadat, and I to ask you to thank the President of the United States, our dear common friend, Mr Jimmy Carter, for all the services he rendered to us. [Words indistinct] when the wounded heroes of the Egyptian and Israel armies meet together in brotherhood. Thank you. [applause]

Begin Announcement on Open Border

NC271228 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1119 GMT 27 May 79 NC

[Announcement in English made by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin in the presence of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance at a meeting in Al-'Arish--live]

[Text] My friends, with the permission of the president, I would like to make an announcement about certain agreements we reached in a talk which lasted less than 16 minutes.

First, the president and I proclaim here from Al-'Arish that the borders of Egypt and Israel are open. [applause] Citizens of Egypt will be able to visit Israel; citizens of Israel will be able to visit Egypt. [applause]

Secondly, the president and I will meet during the first week of July. The president invited me to come to Alexandria. Alexandria is a beautiful city. Haifa is also a very beautiful city. [laughter] And I accepted his kind invitation. During the first week of July I shall be in Alexandria with Mr President for the whole day to hold important talks about problems of our common concern.

Meantime, the foreign minister, Moshe Dayan, will visit his colleague Dr Ghali in Egypt. In Cairo he will meet with the prime minister, Dr Khalil, for arranging all outstanding matters between the two countries.

On 6 July there will be a session of the two negotiating committees in Alexandria--June, excuse me, at this moment I can make a certain mistake about a month. [laughter, apparently by President As-Sadat] And then at the request of the president, I would like to say that when I come back home, I will take steps to set free a number of prisoners whose release will not impair Israel's security. [applause]

DEFENSE MINISTER CONGRATULATES AL-'ARISH CITIZENS

NC271620 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1450 GMT 27 May 79 NC

[Text] Al-'Arish, 27 May--Minister of Defense and War Production Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali today received a number of tribal chieftains and representatives of Al-'Arish citizens who came to express their congratulations on the restoration to Egypt of the town of Al-'Arish as one of the phases of the restoration of Sinai.

General 'Ali thanked them and congratulated them on their return to their homes. He said the committee for the reconstruction of Sinai which he heads has allocated 20 million pounds for the reconstruction of Sinai and the restoration of normal life to it.

General 'Ali said that the armed forces will work hard to tackle the negligence to which Sinai was subjected in the period since the 1967 setback.

CAIRO RADIO RELAYS BEERSHEBA ACTIVITIES, CEREMONY

NC271307 [Editorial Report NC] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1229 GMT on 27 May begins a live relay from Beersheba to describe the arrival of President as-Sadat, Prime Minister Begin and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. According to the announcer, the plane carrying the three officials arrived a short time ago. In Beersheba municipality square a special platform has been set up, flanked on both sides by seats occupied by well-wishers and newsmen. The announcer says Israeli President Navon is present at the municipality to receive President as-Sadat. The announcer says President as-Sadat, who arrived a short time ago, will review the guard of honor and then proceed to Beersheba municipality where he will be given bread and water, according to Jewish tradition. The announcer says Egyptian and Israeli flags are flying along with a banner bearing the inscription: "The city of Ibrahim Khalil greets As-Sadat."

The Egyptian and Israeli defense ministers arrived at the municipality square at 1244 GMT. They are accompanied by Ministers Ghali, Dayan and other Israeli personalities.

President as-Sadat arrives at the square at 1248 GMT and is received with applause. An Israeli army band plays the Egyptian national anthem and follows it with the Israeli national anthem. President as-Sadat reviews the guard of honor. He and Begin and Vance then take their places on the platform. A girl, flanked by two rabbis, presents bread and water to President as-Sadat.

The radio link with Beersheba is interrupted at 1253 GMT. The Cairo studio announcer apologizes for the break in transmission and promises to resume the relay when the link is restored.

The relay from Beersheba is resumed at 1301 GMT . At that time, an unidentified speaker, presumably Israeli President Navon, is speaking in Arabic. He says: With the peace treaty, Egypt is recovering Sinai. It is not easy for us to withdraw from Sinai, which is about three times as big as Israel and in which we have established airports and other vital installations. It is clear, he says, that the State of Israel honors its commitments faithfully. It seems that we must seek the means to strengthen the relations of peace between us. What gratifies us is that our two peoples have expressed their true desire for peace. We also see that the exchange of culture and knowledge is important and we must pave the way for this.

President Navon adds: History does not stand still but it is always in motion. Man does not usually see what is going around him. Mr President, you personally called for change. He then lauds President as-Sadat for his courage and sagacity. He adds that both Egypt and Israel seek change. We signed an agreement that constitutes a framework for peace among all the peoples in the area. Things that now appear to be impossible to achieve can be achieved in the future. The announcer says that the speaker was Navon, who ends his speech at 1314 GMT.

At 1314 GMT, President as-Sadat begins speaking in English with superimposed Arabic translation. His speech ends at 1325 GMT.

At 1325 GMT, the mayor of Beersheba, (Ilyahu) Anwi, speaks in Hebrew. He then speaks in Arabic, saying: It is a great day for the Egyptian and Israeli nations who fought for many long years. The two peoples realized that the Middle East cannot advance through enmity. Why should there be enmity among the Jews and the Arabs, who are two close nations. We begin today by laying the cornerstone of fraternal relations. Hopes are being transformed into facts. The two peoples will continue to carry the torch of history and faith. We greet everyone seeking love and appreciating the value of peace. We greet everyone and say we need more peace-lovers and those who call for direct meetings.

The mayor ends his speech at 1335 GMT by presenting the key to the city of Beersheba to President as-Sadat on the occasion of his visit to the city.

President as-Sadat and his companions then leave the square and enter the municipality building, where they will spend some time before going to Ben-Gurion University. After a short break in transmission at 1339 GMT, the radio resumes transmission from the studio.

As-Sadat Beersheba Municipality Speech

NC271435 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1314 GMT 27 May 79 NC

[Live speech delivered by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat at Beersheba municipality building; in English with superimposed Arabic translation--texted from the English]

[Text] In the name of God. President Navon, dear friends: I was greatly moved by your warm reception. The genuine feelings of friendship between our two peoples is the best guarantee for a secure and happy future for every Arab and Israeli. Together we will revive the tradition of brotherhood and compassion between our peoples.

Our meeting today is a living symbol of the historic change that is taking place in our area and a signal of the actual inauguration of peaceful coexistence. Now that we have ended the state of war between our two countries as part of a comprehensive settlement that would eventually include all parties to the conflict, we are moving without any hesitation to open the channels of communications and exchange. The potential is great. The future holds a tremendous promise.

We are determined to give this march toward peace every chance of success and fulfillment. There will be no barriers between our people; no more anxiety or insecurity; no more suffering or suspicion; and if I am to comment on what President Navon has stated in Arabic let me tell you this in all candor: When I made my initiative on November 1977, I (?envied) nothing.

I have addressed you, the Israeli people, through the Knesset; I have told you my position, my people's position. I have asked that we should start a new page. I was genuine in every word I said. You must have felt this. And I am genuine until this moment. When President Navon says that you have given us Sinai, let me tell you this: We have fought together and today our disabled from both countries have met together and we have given a solemn pledge that there will be no more wars and that the security issue for both sides [applause] should be dealt with. I am happy that what I promised you in Jerusalem in November 1977--that there will be no more war after the October War and that the security issue should be met for both sides--I am very happy and proud that God helped me with Prime Minister Begin to achieve this. But in the same speech before the Knesset I have insisted that land will not make security. The land of others--as your land is sacred to you, the land of the others is sacred to them. That is what I told you in the Knesset.

What we have achieved really in the spirit of the initiative of 1977 is something that no one in the whole world could have imagined or believed that it will take place. But I did not come to the Knesset to ask for my land, as I told you in the Knesset. On the contrary, I came to the Knesset and I addressed you, the Israeli people, to tell you that let us start a new era with love instead of hatred, with friendship instead of enmity. Let us write a new chapter, let us put a foundation for a new order in this world for those who want to solve their problems should follow after that. [sentence as heard]

By God we have succeeded in this. But never let us go back to what has taken place in the past. As I told you, me and my people--we are genuine for peace but also we are genuine for our land, for everything on our land, for oil, for everything that is in Sinai or on our land.

As I told you, the land of the others will not provide security. Only friendship, brotherhood, friendly relations, good neighborhood relations--all this will provide peace. What we need really is a new era. Let us not mention the past at all. Let us not mention who was right and who was wrong. But let us look to the future through love, friendship so that we shall give another example like we gave when I made my initiative in 1977 and when it was answered by Mr Begin.

And we have worked with all the effort and perseverance to achieve what we achieved. And we also achieved what has taken place yesterday in Al-'Arish. At all it is not that you have given us the land. It is the new era of understanding, friendship, respect of both of us to others' lands, to others' sovereignty--the complete desire to build every day, even every moment, a new momentum for peace between our two peoples who have got their civilization very deep-rooted in history.

As I said, no more anxiety or insecurity, no more suffering or suspicion. Blessed are the peacemakers. May God Almighty grant us the strength and vision needed to complete our task and fulfill our mission. Thank you very much. [applause]

Ben-Gurion University Meeting

NC271500 [Editorial Report NC] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1345 GMT on 27 May resumes a live relay from Beersheba municipality.

The announcer says that shortly President As-Sadat will leave the Beersheba municipality building for Ben-Gurion University. Describing the scene outside the municipality building, the announcer says that the town is decorated and the people are rejoicing over peace. Folk dancing troupes are performing to the accompaniment of folk music.

The Egyptian and Israeli defense ministers leave the municipality building at 1401 GMT, followed by Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan.

President as-Sadat leaves the municipality building at 1406 GMT, accompanied by Prime Minister Begin. As-Sadat waves to the people outside and then proceeds to ride in the car which is to take him to Ben-Gurion University. As-Sadat's motorcade goes through Beersheba streets, which are thronged by multitudes on both sides, according to the announcer.

At 1412 GMT, the microphone is taken by another announcer at Ben-Gurion University. The announcer reports that President as-Sadat's motorcade arrives at the university at 1426 GMT. He is received by the university president. As-Sadat is accompanied by Prime Minister Begin and Vice President Mubarak, Prime Minister Khalil, Defense Minister 'Ali and Minister of State Ghali. President as-Sadat then enters the university campus, which is decorated for the occasion. The announcer says that special platforms are set up in the university square.

At 1447 GMT, President as-Sadat enters the square accompanied by Vice President Mubarak and Prime Minister Khalil. As-Sadat and the other guests take their seats.

Ben-Gurion University President Yosef Tekoah begins speaking in English at 1450 GMT. The radio announcer gives a superimposed translation. After welcoming the guests, Tekoah praises As-Sadat and Begin as the makers of peace. He says that all the people of Israel seek peace. He then calls for cooperation between the two countries for the promotion of peace. He says Ben-Gurion University will establish a fund for the benefit of both Israel and Egypt. He says the desert can be a bond of friendship between the two countries. He concludes his speech by presenting the Star of Peace to President as-Sadat.

President as-Sadat begins speaking in English at 1500 GMT and a superimposed Arabic translation is heard. As-Sadat's speech ends at 1505 GMT. Then Begin begins speaking in English and a superimposed Arabic is heard.

Begin welcomes those present and says that peace has been achieved after two generations of difficulties. He adds: The time of no war, no peace is gone and we achieved peace. We have overcome all barriers. We have taken practical steps and will take further steps toward peace. The Israeli flag now passes through the Suez Canal. Al-'Arish has returned to Egypt. I am confident that the two countries will honor all their obligations under the peace treaty. We shall disarm the areas stipulated in the agreement. We will not allow any aggressions to take place between us. We will adopt a stand that befits two great countries. As-Sadat and I send greetings to U.S. President Jimmy Carter, who has rendered to us firm services for the sake of peace. Under Carter's auspices we reached agreement on additional things. Israel will implement the agreement in word and spirit. We have said in the Camp David agreement that Egypt and Jordan have a responsibility regarding autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza. I say that King Husayn has not participated with us up till this moment. He is waiting to see full rule in the West Bank and Gaza. We are prepared to have Jordan participate in the negotiations.

The Egyptian delegation is the only side which has tried to reach an agreement on this. Arabs and Jews can coexist in peace. The enemies of peace say we reached a separate peace treaty. We did not. We have taken first step toward a comprehensive peace to be followed in the future by peace with the other neighbors. This is what we are striving for. Begin ends his speech at 1517 GMT.

Begin's speech is followed by a band playing music. At 1519 GMT, an unidentified speaker wishes the guests, on behalf of the university, a safe return home. He calls for cooperation for the prevalence of peace throughout the area. The relay ends at 1525 GMT.

As-Sadat University Speech

NC271600 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 May 79 NC

[Speech delivered by President as-Sadat at Ben-Gurion University in Beersheba; in English with superimposed Arabic translation; processed from English--live]

[Text] In the name of God. Dear Friends: For centuries Arabs and Jews have lived together in peace and fraternity, the common descendents from Abraham. A similar religious belief and a shared cultural heritage have bound us in our search for happiness and fulfillment. In the dawn of Islam, our great prophet Muhammad signed a charter which stipulated that the Jews who lived among us shall have an equal right with our own people to our systems and good offices. The Jews of the various branches domiciled in Yathrib shall form with the Muslims one composite nation. They shall practise their religion as free as the Muslims. This spirit of amity and friendship proved to be a profound and lasting one.

Maimonides used to write his great works in Arabic. Some have linked his writings with those of Al-Farabi. Our region never witnessed the communal conflict that existed between Jews and non-Jews in other parts of the world. It is the responsibility of those among us who are endowed with vision to revive such a spirit today. The challenge before us is not one of scoring a point here or there; rather, it is how to build a viable structure for peace for your generation and the generations to come. Fanaticism and self-righteousness are no answer to the complex problems of today. The answer is tolerance, compassion and magnimity.

We will be judged not by the hard positions we took, but by the wounds we healed, the homes we saved and the sufferings we eliminated. We have taken the first step toware a comprehensive peace in the Middle East. It was a giant step measured by the accumulated obstacles and psychological barriers that existed in the past. Yetit remains to be followed up and completed. This is an awesome task that requires all the good-will and cooperation we can muster. Events of the recent past have shuttered away all concepts of security based on territorial expansion and denial of national rights. The real state of security is genuine acceptance without reservation. I have no doubt that you will demonstrate in the months ahead a veritable willingness to live in peace with all your neighbors, including the Palestinian people.

Let us pledge ourselves to the cause of peace and brotherhood. Let no man, Arab or Jew, waste his precious life on war or on destruction. Let us join together in a solemn prayer to God almighty to save our homes from hatred and prejudice. Let us devote our energies and resources to improve the quality of life for every man, woman and child. Thank you very much. [applause]

PRESIDENT AS-SADAT RETURNS TO AL-'ARISH FROM BEERSHEBA

NC271957 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1945 GMT 27 May 79 NC

[Text] Al-'Arish, 27 May--President Anwar as-Sadat returned to Al-'Arish tonight after a visit of several hours to Beersheba.
Earlier, President as-Sadat made an air tour over Israel and a sector of Sinai. He was accompanied by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Vice President Husni Mubarak. The tour, which lasted 45 minutes, signalled the opening of the air corridor between Egypt and Israel.

AS-SADAT GOES TO PORT SAID, ISMAILIA 28 MAY

NC280815 [Editorial Report NC] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 0758 GMT on 28 May, in a linkup with Voice of the Arabs, relays the departure of President as-Sadat from Al-'Arish airport. President as-Sadat arrives at the airport in an open car at 0805 GMT accompanied by Vice President Mubarak. As-Sadat is wearing a navy uniform while Mubarak is wearing an air force uniform, according to the announcer. The governor of Northern Sinai, Shawkat, is at the airport to see As-Sadat off for Port Said. The plane takes off at 0809 GMT and the relay ends at 0810 GMT.

At 0825 GMT on 28 May Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic resumes its linkup with Voice of the Arabs to relay the arrival of President as-Sadat in Port Said. At 0837 GMT the announcer reports from Al-Jamil airport in Port Said that the president has just landed. He greets the Port Said governor and senior welcomers. White doves are released while school children and citizens cheer President as-Sadat. As-Sadat's motorcade leaves the airport for Port Said city, where it arrives at 0847 GMT. As-Sadat rides in an open car through the city streets amid citizens' cheers and the tolling of church bells, the announcer says. At 0900 GMT As-Sadat, accompanied by Vice President Mubarak, arrives at the Suez Canal Authority in Port Said harbor. The band plays the national anthem. As-Sadat inspects the guard of honor and greets a group of October 1973 war veterans. At 0907 GMT President as-Sadat boards the ship Al-Hurriyah while a naval unit fires a 21-gun salute and, according to the announcer, dozens of ships blow their whistles greeting the president. Al-Hurriyah sails through the canal, taking President As-Sadat on a tour of the canal. The relay ends at 0917 GMT.

At 1137 GMT on 28 May Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic again links up with Voice of the Arabs to relay the arrival of President as-Sadat in Al-Qantarah ash-Sharqiyah on the east bank of the Suez Canal aboard the ship Al-Hurriyah. According to the announcer, a train from Port Said on the west bank slows down and its passengers wave to As-Sadat. A company of armed forces on the west bank cheers the president when his ship slowly passes through, bound for Ismailia. The relay ends at 1148 GMT.

As-Sadat Arrives in Ismailia

NC281530 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 May 79 NC

[Excerpt] At 1550 President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat arrived in the town of Ismailia. The president's boat, Al-Hurriyah, earlier sailed from Port Said to the town of Ismailia amid a great show of hospitality, love, greetings and support.

As-Sadat Press Conference

NC281650 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1556 GMT 28 May 79 NC

[Text] Ismailia, 28 May--President Anwar as-Sadat has asserted that Egypt is determined to complete the march of building peace and democracy and of achieving prosperity. President Anwar as-Sadat described the present moments in the life of Egypt as the happiest and greatest moments in life. He said: I believe that the people of Egypt share this feeling with me.

At a press conference he held aboard the ship Al-Hurriyah when it was sailing from Port Said to Ismailia today, President as-Sadat emphasized that he is always seeking to give an impetus to the peace process, saying: The opening of the border between Egypt and Israel is a part of our efforts to push forward the process of peace.

The following is the text of the press conference during which President as-Sadat answered the questions of the world press and news agency correspondents:

Question: At this historic moment, which all the Egyptian people, the Arab peoples and the world peoples are witnessing, what do you have to say to the Egyptian people?

Answer: What will I say? I have said what I wanted to say. We must complete the march. Our march today aims at building peace and democracy and at achieving prosperity. We must channel all our efforts to achieve the glories of October toward peace in order that the performance may be of the same standard as the October performance. I believe that my people share with me one of the happiest and greatest moments of life.

Question: Your Excellency the President, you have spent 3 glorious days in Al-'Arish. What does the announcement on the opening of borders between Egypt and Israel mean? Many people think that the borders have been opened for good. What can you tell us?

Answer: As you know, I always seek to give a momentum to the peace process. The opening of the borders is a part of our efforts to push the peace process forward now that the negotiations on a comprehensive settlement have (?started). It is easy for us to make any step to push forward the process of comprehensive settlement. The foreign ministers of both countries will immediately begin to discuss the details of this issue and of opening the border like any two neighbors. I believe Dayan is to arrive [in Cairo] next week.

Question: What about commercial aviation, Mr President? Will it be started between Egypt and Israel?

Answer: Regarding the El-Al and Egyptair companies, their turn will come as a step after the completion of the withdrawal. But we will have no objection if any foreign company wants to operate a line between Egypt and Israel. We do not object, and such lines will not be boycotted.

Question: You have agreed to Begin's request to open the borders. Will you ask anything in return other than the release of Palestinians? Will you ask, for example, that they change their intransigent position during the autonomy discussions?

Answer: As I said in Beersheba yesterday, I am not the type to wait for an opportunity. I stated before that. I agreed to the opening of the border and that Mr Begin will release the Palestinian prisoners at the same time. We cannot say: You must do this or must not do that. The peace process cannot be conducted in such a manner. The dynamism of action keeps the peace process moving.

Question: During yesterday's discussions, did you, Mr President, ask Mr Begin whether he was going to change his declared position on the settlements or was there an indication that this could happen?

Answer: There are differences and this could be described as a gap in our positions. However, this is not the first time that there has been such a gap. There have been gaps before. We were able to narrow all the gaps in 18 months, and I hope that we will overcome this gap through the dyanmic operation.

Question: Mr President, there thave been reports and statements regarding the reconvening of the Geneva conference or something similar, perhaps before the end of this year or after the U.S. presidential elections or some other time.

Answer: Quote me on this. I want to say that I do not object to going to Geneva if this would please the others, but if I suggest Geneva, they will refuse.

Question: Have the Americans indicated that they are ready to accept this?

Answer: I have not asked them or anybody else to call for such a conference. The Americans might agree or disagree, but I have not asked them to do so.

Question: Have they brought this up?

Answer: No, no. Yesterday I discussed with Vance the possibility of coordinating our two positions during the forthcoming negotiations and I also discussed some bilateral issues with him.

Question: The New York TIMES reported that as an example of good intentions, the Americans told Egypt and Israel that they will contact the Palestinians through you. What does this mean?

Answer: I have only learned this from you. However, the Americans are looking for a way, or rather they stand at the beginning of the road ready to contact the Palestinians if they approve Resolution 242. This is what I know of the U.S. position and I know nothing else new.

Question: Begin has declared that he will not recognize the PLO. What is your excellency's opinion?

Answer: I do not agree at all. I previously declared in Beersheba that they must learn to coexist with the Palestinians. Some facts are clear to everybody living in this area. A person must coexist with the realities of this area, and one of these realities is the Palestinian question.

Question: Don't you believe, Mr President, that the recognition of the PLO is only a question of time?

Answer: Regrettably, I had an unsuccessful experience after I agreed to the full autonomy and took the first steps, such as Al-'Arish. We are approaching a new strategy with the Palestinians. The Palestinians must make the decision which nobody else can make.

Question: Does the new strategy mean the PLO will not be represented?

Answer: Why do you try to cause trouble between me and the PLO? I have recognized the PLO, but they have not yet risen to the level of dealing with the new factors that have taken place in the area, particularly after the takeover of Al-'Arish. Al-'Arish will make history. Al-'Arish day will go down in history as the day the new strategy was adopted.

Question: Will it be possible to invite the PLO to participate in the discussions?

Answer: Let us not raise this question for 3 years, which is when the transition period will end. What we must do during this period is to discuss the question of the representation of the Palestinians. Moreover, we hope that in the meantime the Palestinians will adopt new methods. Let me tell you very frankly that there are painful decisions which must be made.

Question: Your discussions with Vance indicated that the United States continues to adhere to the concept of the Palestinian homeland. Are the Americans prepared to exert pressure to achieve this objective?

Answer: Let us put aside the question of pressure. The U.S. policy, as explained by President Carter himself, is based on the fact that a homeland must be found for the Palestinians. There is no change in this and there is no new position.

Question: Does your excellency consider this as a compromise between Egypt's demand for the establishment of a Palestinian state and the Israeli concept of limited autonomy?

Answer: We are not discussing the U.S. position now but we can discuss it at the beginning of July.

AS-SADAT TO TAKE A HOLIDAY; MUBARAK ACTING PRESIDENT

NC282125 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 28 May 79 NC

[Text] Immediately after his arrival in Ismailia, President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat decided to take a holiday, starting at noon today, until the beginning of next week. His excellency has charged Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak with carrying out all the duties of the president of the republic.

KHALIL SAYS OPENING OF BORDER DOES NOT MEAN FREE MOVEMENT

NC280745 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0717 GMT 28 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 28 May--Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil has stated that the measures for normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel will be in accordance with the provisions of the peace treaty and within the framework defined in the treaty. Regarding the opening of the border, Dr Khalil said that the current procedure governing the movement of individuals between states will be applied, such as visas and organization of transport.

In a statement published by the newspaper AL-AHRAM today, the prime minister says that Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan will arrive in Cairo on 4 June to discuss with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali the arrangements for opening the border, which does not at all mean unrestricted freedom of movement between the two countries. He adds that Dayan's visit to Cairo will last 2 days, after which he will return to Israel to report to Israeli officials.

AL-AHRAM says that Israeli El-Al planes will not be permitted to land in Egypt, nor will Egyptair planes be permitted to land in Israel. What happened yesterday, the paper adds, was merely an opening of an air corridor between Egypt and Israel. Egypt, it says, announced to the world that such a corridor, AL-AHRAM says, will be restricted to official trips and within the narrowest limits.

AL-AHRAM: EGYPT VIEWS VANCE SPEECH AS BASIS FOR TALKS

NC280725 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 28 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 28 May--The newspaper AL-AHRAM says today that the talks held yesterday among President Anwar as-Sadat, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance in Al-'Arish, Beersheba, and on the plane centered on giving the negotiations on self-rule for the Palestinians a new strong impetus to insure progress at the forthcoming meetings.

AL-AHRAM says Egypt believes that the speech made by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance at the first meeting of the tripartite committee in Beersheba 3 days ago is suitable as a basis and as a working paper for the future meetings. This, the paper adds, is because the speech contained the most important principles of the Camp David agreements and the complementary letter on the West Bank and Gaza signed by President as-Sadat and Menahem Begin.

Accordingly, Egypt has suggested that a statement be drafted including the most important principles in Cyrus Vance's speech as a basis for negotiations, because the plan approved by the Israeli Cabinet contradicts the Camp David agreements and does not constitute a suitable basis for negotiation.

Meanwhile, Dr Mustafa Khalil, prime minister and head of the Egyptian delegation to the self-rule negotiations, has met with Cyrus Vance and Yosef Burg, Israeli interior minister and head of the Israeli side to the negotiations. They discussed the agenda of the committee's meeting due to be held in Alexandria. Dr Khalil briefed Burg on Egypt's visualization of the future talks and the question of agreement on formation of committees, each one to deal with one specific issue.

Israel's insistence on making statements on the meaning and objectives of self-rule, which are contrary to the Camp David agreements and liable to increase the suspicions of the other sides, especially the Palestinians, was raised with the U.S. side. Egypt stressed that it considers the U.S. side a full partner in the negotiations, not merely an auxiliary factor meant to bring the views of the two sides closer together.

It has been decided that each of the three sides will prepare a specific framework for the negotiations so that next week's meeting in Alexandria will deal with specific topics and produce tangible results.

AL-AHRAM COMMENTS ON NAVON'S SPEECH IN BEERSHEBA

NC290809 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 29 May 79 NC

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Under the heading We Are Again Hearing the Voice of the Past, AL-AHRAM analyzes the speech delivered by Israeli President Yizhaq Navon in Beersheba.

AL-AHRAM says: The Israeli president's words only reflect an Israeli idea which must be changed so that the desired peace will be achieved. The land which Egypt has retrieved was and always will be Egyptian territory. Egypt has paid a high price for it with its sons, blood and sacrifices. Security will not be final whether that land remains in Israeli hands or is restored to Egypt. Only relations of freindship, good neighborliness and amity will achieve this. The only way to peace is by solving the core of both the issue and the conflict and giving the Palestinians their legitimate right to decide their own future.

In conclusion, AL-AHRAM says: Without doubt, Egypt has proved to the world its sincerity for the sake of peace. The words to be written by Israel on the page of the new relations with Egypt will show the realization of that peace for us, for them and for all other parties involved.

AL-JUMHURIYAH REPORTS F-5 AIRCRAFT DEAL TO GO THROUGH

NC282310 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2306 GMT 26 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 28 May--AL-JUMHURIYAH reports in its Tuesday edition that the United States has promised Egypt to complete the F-5 aircraft transaction. The paper adds that Washington is currently holding contacts on financing the deal now that Saudi Arabia has refused to finance it.

AS-SADAT PROMOTES TOP MILITARY PERSONNEL

NC261955 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1935 GMT 26 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 May--In his capacity as the supreme commander of the armed forces, President Anwar as-Sadat has issued a republican decree promoting presidential adviser Gen Muhammad al-Jamasi to the rank of field marshal; presidential adviser Lt Gen Muhammad 'Ali Fahmi to the rank of general; Vice Admiral Fu'ad Dhikri to the rank of admiral; and Defense Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali to the rank of general.

The presidential decree also promotes the armed forces chief of staff, Maj Gen Ahmad Badawi, to the rank of lieutenant general; the air defense commander, Maj Gen Hilmi 'Afifi, to the rank of lieutenant general; Air Force Maj Gen Mahmud Shakir 'Abd al-Mun'im to the rank of lieutenant general; and the naval forces commander, Rear Admiral Muhammad 'Ali Muhammad, to the rank of vice admiral.

After the People's Assembly elections, the president will summon the assembly to a special session to honor these commanders.

As-Sadat Honors Khalil

NC262100 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 May 79 NC

[Excerpts] President Anwar as-Sadat has issued a republican decree awarding the Collar of the Republic to Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil.

UN DELEGATE ADDRESSES LETTER TO WALDHEIM

NC251318 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 May 79 NC

[Text] In a letter sent to UN Secretary General Dr Kurt Waldheim last night, Lebanese UN Delegate Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni said that Israel has committed very serious aggressive actions, including air and sea attacks and artillery bombardment, causing casualties among civilians and damage to property for no reason. He said that the fedayeen operations within the occupied territory do not justify the Israeli attacks on Lebanon. He added: We strongly reject that such a serious escalation be justified by the policy of preemptive strikes, or the so-called right of hot pursuit: Retaliation against civilians who could not be held responsible for any military action, particularly when such operations take place inside Israel.

BUTRUS MEETS SOVIET OFFICIAL, MAKES STATEMENT

NC251355 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 May 79 NC

[Text] Developments related to the situation in the area and events in Lebanon, particularly in the south, were the subject of consultations between Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus and chief of the Near Eastern Department in the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Mr Grinevskiy.

Minister Butrus received the Soviet envoy at 0945 today. The meeting, which was attended by Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon Soldatov, lasted 90 minutes. After the meeting Minister Butrus said that the chief of the Near Eastern Department in the Soviet Foreign Ministry is visiting Lebanon and some other Arab countries within the framework of the Soviet Union's diplomatic activities following recent developments in the area and before it proposes future steps to be taken by the UN Secruity Council--steps connected to the recent events. The Soviet Union shows interest in everything related to the area, including Lebanon and the bloody incidents taking place in it, particularly in southern Lebanon.

Minister Butrus added: The meeting was an occasion for the Soviet envoy to review the current important points. The Soviet envoy expressed his government's views on these points and on the future: I also presented my analysis of the situation and dealt with some of the main points, and expressed our visualization of the future. Such meetings, held from time to time, are undoubtedly useful because they provide an opportunity to clarify some stands, to crystallize some points and to discuss some difficulties in depth. On this occasion, I draw attention to the fact that the Soviet Union will preside over the Security Council next month. I need not say that the Security Council takes great interest in Lebanon and some of its issues. Our talks with the Soviet envoy were completely frank. On matters discussed, each one of us spoke of what he believed to be right and necessary and that which should be communicated to the other side.

Asked if he expects more explosions in the south, Grinevskiy said: We came to Lebanon to discuss with Lebanese officials matters related to the situation in Lebanon and around it and some international issues. Therefore, I do not want to hasten to speak of my own conclusions. He added: I want to thank you for the interest you are showing in my mission. However, I am convinced that we have many things we can discuss in a whole day. I must keep quiet and see what you are going to write.

Asked about the nature of his mission in Lebanon, the Soviet envoy said: I have said that we will meet with some Lebanese officials to discuss matters of interest to both sides.

SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL ENDS VISIT

NC282040 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 2015 GMT 28 May 79 NC

[Text] Chief of the Near Eastern Department in the Soviet Foreign Ministry Grinevskiy left Beirut for Moscow this afternoon after a 4-day visit to Lebanon.

AL-HUSS STARTS DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY ON SOUTHERN LEBANON

NC281300 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 May 79 NC

[Excerpts] At noon today President Ilyas Sarkis met with Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus to review the outcome of Lebanon's diplomatic activity at the United Nations to end the Israeli attacks on southern Lebanon.

Government officials are paying great attention to the tragic situation in the south. They are following its implications and studying ways to implement the UN Security Council resolutions and impose the legal Lebanese authority on all the areas of the south.

At noon today Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss began diplomatic activity to acquaint the Arab states with the dangers surrounding the south. Meanwhile, Lebanon's permanent representative at the United Nations, Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni, has stated that he will submit a new note to the Security Council on the repeated Israeli attacks on the south.

Starting his diplomatic activity today, Prime Minister al-Huss met with Kuwaiti Ambassador in Lebanon 'Abd al-Hamid al-Bu'ayjan, as part of his efforts to insure effective Arab support for Lebanon's diplomatic campaign.

After the meeting, Ambassador al-Bu'ayjan said: I met with Prime Minister al-Huss at his request. He raised the issue of the south. Since Kuwait is a UN Security Council member, Prime Minister al-Huss explained the tragedies taking place in the south and the emigration of people from that area. He also submitted some views that I will convey to the Kuwaiti Government.

Asked about his view of the Arab political stand toward what is happening in the south, he said the Arabs would like to do something, but their will is low at the present stage.

Prime Minister al-Huss then met with Saudi Charge d'Affaires Abu Bakr Rufay', who said: I was pleased with my meeting with the prime minister, which took place at his request. We exchanged views on current affairs and bilateral relations. We also dealt with the problem of the south.

Asked whether the prime minister had asked that Saudi Arabia work to convene an Arab summit to discuss the situation in the south, the Saudi charge d'affaires said: We did not discuss this subject.

ISRAEL 'EXPANDING' ATTACK ON SOUTHERN LEBANON

NC281218 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 May 79 NC

[Text] The alarming situation in the south predominates all other issues. Israel is expanding the cycle of death and destruction in the southern areas. It is continuing its barbaric attacks, without feeling compelled to fabricate excuses and without meeting with anyone who could stop its destructive military machine and put an end to its attacks on defenseless citizens.

The Israeli artillery shelling to which the town of An-Nabatiyah has been subjected since morning has expanded to include the villages of Kafr Rumman, Al-Ayshiyan, Arnun and Kafr Tibnit. The shelling continues up to this moment.

At 1215 today three 155-mm artillery shells fell on Tyre and one shell on the Al-Kharab quarter. Losses are not yet known.

According to press correspondents' reports, Israeli long-range artillery and the border strip [Haddad's forces] artillery shelled the town of Tyre this morning. The shelling continued until midday, while Israeli gunboats were cruising opposite the port. Several bombs, including cluster bombs, fell on the port this morning. Meanwhile, low-flying Israeli planes made several flights over Tyre, the neighboring villages and the refugee camps.

According to correspondents reports, Sa'd Haddad today met with a delegation from the villages of Yatar and Sribbin and asked the delegation to join his partitionist state. However, the inhabitants of the two villages rejected his demand and declared their allegiance to the legitimate Lebanese authorities. They also asked UN Emergency Forces to protect them against any attacks.

Continued Israeli Shelling

NC290620 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 29 May 79 NC

[Text] The Israeli aggressions against southern Lebanon resumed last night. Before midnight, An-Nabatiyah, Al-'Ayshiyah, Al-Majdal, Wadi as-Suluki, Tibnin and As-Sultaniyah in the central sector came under artillery and gunboat fire. The Israelis, in cooperation with the border strip militias, heavily shelled the villages of 'Ayn Bi'al, As-Suma'iliyah, Dayr Qanun, Batulay, Ra's al-'Ayn and vicinity, and Ar-Rashidiyah in the Tyre district.

These same villages and areas were also the target of Israeli aggressions yesterday and before. Observers unanimously agree that the conditions of the inhabitants are tragic and characterized by extreme tension as a result of the continued shelling.

The UN Emergency Forces were placed in a state of maximum alert after Israeli armored vehicles moved from Bint Jubayl in the direction of Tibnin, accompanied by continuous shelling supported by air sorties at various altitudes and movement of Israeli gunboats off Tyre.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS INTER-PALESTINIAN CLASH

NC290658 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 29 May 79 NC

[Text] In a clash in the Tyre area between elements of the various Palestinian organizations, Muhammad Hadari was killed and Husayn 'Ammuri and 'Ali Hasan Kawtharani were wounded.

VOL REPORTS SYRIAN SOCIAL NATIONALIST LEADER KILLED

NC281350 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 28 May 79 NC

[Excerpts] Two people were killed and three others were wounded in the port area today when DSHK sniper fire was opened from Al-Batun building, which is occupied by foreigners.

In Rashayya al-Wadi a disagreement between the Socialist Party and the Syrian Social Nationalist Party resulted in the killing of Syrian Social Nationalist Party leader Said al-Uryan.

ALGERIA

AL-QADHDHAFI ARRIVES IN ALGIERS, MAKES STATEMENT

ID252236 Tripoli JANA in English 0814 GMT 25 May 79 ID

[Text] Algiers, May 25, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great First of September Revolution, started a visit yesterday 24th May to sister Algeria at the invitation of President Chadli Bendjedid.

Dar al-Bayda international airport has witnessed a warm meeting between the Libyan-Arab and the Algerian revolutions. President Chadli Bendjedid was at the head of those who received Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, who was accompanied by a delegation which included Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, 'Abd al-Majid al-Qa'ud secretary of liaison, Musa abu Puraywah secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning, Abu Zayd Durda secretary of the General People's Committee for Municipalities, Dr Muhammad Ahmad ash-Sharif secretary of the General People's Committee for Education, the under-secretary at the Foreign Secretariat, and a number of its heads of departments.

[Words indistinct] reception was given to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and his accompanying delegation which expressed the consolidation of the two revolutions and their continuity in serving the causes of the Arab nation and the confrontation of all conspiracies designed against it and against the causes of the African struggle.

When [Words indistinct] the plane he was warmly embraced by the Algerian president. Then Colonel al-Qadhdhafi shook hands with Rabah Bitat, president of the National Assembly, Mohamed Salah Yahyawi, the party's coordinator, and members of the Political Bureau at the party.

After Allah Akbar anthem and the Algerian Republic anthem were played bouquets of flowers were presented to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. He then, accompanied by the Algerian president, inspected the guards of honour who stood to salute him.

The leader of the Great First of September Revolution and the Algerian president then headed for the rest hall at the airport in Dar al-Bayda where Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi delivered a statement in which he said.

"I am always happy when I come to Algeria, however, this time I feel sad because I remember my brother Houari Boumediene. But what can we do before God's fate except being patient over grief."

He added, "This is a feeling which I truly feel this time and contrary to the previous times."

He added, "If I have to speak to the brotherly Algerian people it is wise to remind them of what they have to carry on in their new era under the leadership of President Chadli Bendjedid. I say they should continue along the road of Arabism, the road of Islam, consolidating the people's power and protecting the socialist achievements accomplished after independence. The Algerian people are also called upon to march along the route of Arab unity. I am confident that Algeria is capable of charting its way along this route, as I have great confidence in my brothers and friends who are in power in Algeria, with Chadli Bendjedid at their head.

Meets With Bendjedid

LD261318 Tripoli JANA in English 0811 GMT 26 May 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, May 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Colonel Mu'amahar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great First of September Revolution, held a meeting with President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria yesterday at 4:30 p.m. in Jenan Mubruk in the capital. The meeting was attended by Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir; Rabah Bitat, the president of the National Assembly; Mohamed Salah Yahiaoui, the party coordinator; Mohamed Benyahia, the minister of foreign affairs; and Gassidi Murbah, the under-secretary of the Algerian Ministry of Defence.

Leaders Visit Mosque

LD261320 Tripoli JANA in English 0815 GMT 26 May 79 LD

[Text] Algeria, May 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Colonel Mu'ammar l-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great First of September Revolution, President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria, Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, and the Libyan Arab delegation performed the Friday prayers at Al-Abyar Mosque in Algiers. In his Friday sermon the preacher (Khatib) at the mosque called upon the Arab nation to follow the holy Koran and the teachings of the true Muslim faith.

He stressed the importance of unity in raising the status of Islam and Muslims, pointing out that differences lead to the deterioration and destruction of peoples. The preacher added, "With unity the nation fulfills its aspirations and endeavours for a free noble life." The speaker went on to say that the traitors who have surrendered to the enemy will end in hell, together with those who have sanctioned the surrender with the "fatwa". The Muslim religion, he said, "urges jihad (holy war) and calls upon Muslims to raise the banner of Islam high without submission to the enemy in the protection of land and honour." The preacher invoked the Muslims to the jihad for Allah, and for the liberation of Arab and Islamic land.

President Chadli Bendjedid held a luncheon banquet yesterday in Jenan Mabruk district in honour of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the delegation accompanying him.

Joint Communique

LD282050 Tripoli JANA in English 1905 GMT 28 May 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, May 28, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Following the visit paid by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great First of September Revolution to Algeria, a joint communique was issued. The following is the full text of the communique:

Within the framework of the periodical agreements agreed upon between the two historical leaderships of the Great First of September Revolution and the first November revolution, and to carry on to achieve what was stipulated in Hassi Masoud Charter issued on 4th Rabi' Awal 1382 since the Prophet's death, (1392 Hegira) corresponding to 18th April 1973, and in completion of previous meetings, and from the sides' awareness of the increasing challenges that the Arab nation is facing, and in order to achieve the ambitions and aspirations of the two brotherly peoples, which are those of the Arab nation as a whole for liberation unity and progress, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great First of September Revolution, accompanied by an important delegation, paid a working visit to the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria at the invitation of his brother, President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria, and the secretary-general of National Liberation Front (FLN).

During the meeting held between Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and President Chadli Benjedid, with the participation of Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, the general commander of the Jamahiriyah Armed Forces, the international causes, the current situation, the causes of the Arab world and the African Continent in general and the bilateral relations in particular were reviewed. The two sides also exchanged points of view in an atmosphere dominated by the spirit of brotherhood and understanding.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi expressed his appreciation towards the achievements and successes achieved by the Algerian people under the leadership of the National Liberation Front and by the resolutions of the fourth congress in accordance with the national charter. He also expressed his appreciation towards the realistic policy adopted by Algeria at the internal and external levels. In his turn Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi informed President Bendjedid about the achievements accomplished by the Great First of September Revolution in political, economic, cultural and social fields. He also informed him about what the masses of the Libyan Arab people have achieved in constructing the imposing structure of the new socialist society based on direct democracy, through the separation of revolution from authority, and the establishment of people's authority.

President Chadli Benjedid expressed his great appreciation for these giant achievements accomplished by the Great First of September Revolution, thanks to the revolutionary leadership of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

He praised the pioneer role undertaken by the Jamahiriyah for the achievement of national aims of the Arab nation. On the sphere of bilateral relations the two sides expressed their great satisfaction for the strength of brotherly relations developing between the two countries and for the different aspects of cooperation existing between them in political economic, cultural and social fields. They affirmed their determination and persistence to implement Hassi Masoud Charter and for this purpose they agreed upon forming a high level joint committee from the two countries with the aim of studying the measures which can be taken at the present stage to implement the items of Hassi Masoud Charter.

They also renewed their determination to develop relations and cooperation in a deeper and wider way to achieve the ambitions and aspirations of their peoples in organic linkage between the two sisterly countries.

The visit witnessed also the signing of the protocol to increase and develop cooperation between the two brotherly nations in all fields. A programme of work involving education and cultural cooperation was signed. On the Arab (?sphere special) attention (?was paid) to the serious situation in the Arab region. They renewed their determination to pursue the struggle (?and the) commitment to the objectives of the Arab struggle. Both sides pointed to the constructive role played by the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation [words indistinct] colonialism, imperialism and Zionism. They stressed the need of the complete implementation of the Baghdad summit resolutions to isolate the Egyptian regime, considered to be the major cause for the increased tension in the region and the attempt to create a rift in the Arab ranks and providing the enemy a free hand to liquidate the Palestinian cause, in preparation for subjugating the Arab nation to Zionist imperialist domination.

The two sides affirmed their absolute rejection of the capitulatory treaty undertaken by the Egyptian regime in defiance of the will of the Egyptian people themselves and the Arab nation. The treaty endeavours to cancel the real role of the Egyptian Army in bearing the responsibility of the battle of destiny side by side with its Arab brothers against Zionism. The treaty attempts to lead the Egyptian Army to assume roles (?which) contradict its essential duties and which serve Zionist imperialist schemes designed to consolidate imperialist domination and exploitation of the Arab homeland.

The two sides declare their unequivocal support for the Palestinian revolution and the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the sole legitimate representative, for the liberation, return, self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on Palestinian territory. Both sides expressed their corresponding points of view regarding the Palestinian cause as the core of the present struggle between the Arab nation and (Israel). Accordingly, no solution is possible or can be implemented without the Palestinian people exercising their complete sovereignty over their own territory.

The two parties declared support for the peoples of the Western Sahara under the leadership of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Segwia el Hamra and Rio de Oro (POLISARIO) and their right to self-determination in accordance with the UN resolutions and international circles. Both sides praised the struggle of the Muslim Iranian people who have eradicated the autocratic regime, the ally of imperialism and Zionism in the region. They declared support for the Islamic revolution in Iran.

The current situation in the African Continent was studied. This included the atrocious attack to which Africa is exposed and the colonialist attempts to regain their positions from which they were evacuated. They expressed confidence in the capability of the African policy to confront this attack, asserting their determination to support the African peoples who are struggling to liquidate the imperialist foreign forces and bases in the continent in order to complete its independence and liberty.

On the issue, the two parties condemned the imperialist intervention in Chad and called for the establishment of a friendly national government in accordance with the resolutions of the Kano conference.

The two sides expressed their grave concern toward the recent developments in southern part of the African Continent. They also strongly condemned the racist policies and the manoeuvers aiming at retaining the domination of the racist regimes and their exploitation of the peoples of the region. They rejected in the statement the recent elections organised by the racist administration in Salisbury. The two sides called upon all world progressive forces to double their support and assistance for the liberation movements in Africa.

The two sides reviewed the situation in the Mediterranean region and stressed the necessity of making it a region of peace and fruitful cooperation between the surrounding countries. At the international level the two sides reviewed the current situation that attracts the attention of countries and which needs firm and just solutions in order to restore peace and security all over the world.

The two sides agreed that the aggravation of the present situation is due to threats directed against peoples' freedom and the plots of neo-colonialism and imperialism which aim at creating areas of tension in order to consolidate its domination and exploitation of peoples.

The two sides reaffirmed their adherence to the principles of the non-alignment movement. They also praised its prominent role in supporting people's struggle. They affirmed the necessity of coordination and consultation between the member countries in order to make the next conference due in Havana successful.

The two sides affirmed the right of nations to control their natural resources and national wealth for the development of their countries and the achievement of their aims, as well as the need to continue the efforts aiming at establishing a new economic order which puts an end to monopolization and exploitation in international economic relations and which secures to the peoples of the Third World the use of their natural resources and guide them towards aims of development in order to eliminate the huge differences which exist between the industrialized countries and the developing countries. The two sides expressed their satisfaction towards the positive results of the visit and agreed to continue their meetings at all levels.

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great First of September Revolution, expressed his thanks for the warm welcome and the brotherly reception he and his accompanying delegation were given by President Chadli Bendjedid and the Algerian people. In return Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi invited President Chadli Bendjedid to visit the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiryah. President Chadli Benjedid accepted the invitation, the date of which will be (?assigned) later.

Al-Qadhdhafi Departs

ID281224 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 May 79 ID

[Text] Commander of the Libyan Revolution Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi left Algeria this morning at the end of a 4-day business and friendship visit to Algeria. He was seen off at the airport by Party Secretary General and President of the Republic Chadli Bendjedid, members of the Political Bureau and senior party and state officials, and a number of ministers and senior civilian and military officials.

Before leaving, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, accompanied by President Bendjedid, reviewed a detachment of republican guards who took the salute. The two national anthems were also played. During his stay in Algeria the leader of the Libyan revolution held a series of talks with President Chadli Bendjedid and visited Tizi Quzou province and yesterday met with FLN strugglers. [passage indistinct]

APS REPORTS TITO'S ARRIVAL IN ALGIERS

ID281718 Algiers APS in English 1548 GMT 28 May 79 ID

[Text] Algiers, 28 May (APS)--President Josip Broz Tito of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia arrived at Algiers, Dar al-Bayda Airport at 16.10 (15.10 GMT) on a several day official visit to Algeria. President Tito was invited by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary-general of the FLN Party.

MAURITANIA

HEAD OF STATE ANNOUNCES DEATH OF PRIME MINISTER

LD280116 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2345 GMT 27 May 79 LD

[Statement by Lt Col Moustapha Ould Mohamed Salek, chairman of the Military Committee for National Recovery and head of state--recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the all merciful, prayers be on his Prophet. Citizens, officers, NCO's and soldiers, we are from God and to him we shall return.

God has said: No soul knows what it shall earn tomorrow, and no soul knows in what land it shall die. A painful disaster has befallen our nation today at a time when we face many problems domestically and internationally. It has been confirmed, to our great regret and sorrow, that Lt Col Ahmad Ould Bouceif, first deputy chairman of the Military Committee for National Recovery and prime minister, and the members of the important delegation accompanying him have died, following a crash of the military aircraft carrying them across the waters of the Atlantic Ocean, as a result of unexpected weather difficulties.

The late Ahmad Ould Bouceif had left for Dakar to represent our country at the economic community of the west African states. The Military Committee for National Recovery, while extending sorrowful condolences to the family of the late Ahmad Ould Bouceif and to the families of all members of the delegation accompanying him, declares a 40-day period of national mourning throughout the country. The military committee sent a high-level delegation to Dakar this evening to participate in the search being carried out by the Senegalese authorities for the wreckage of the aircraft and the people who were on board.

The military committee has vested in the government all the necessary powers to take all the other practical measures following from this tragic incident. Fellow patriots, men and women: This national disaster, which has hit us at a time when we are encircled by many dangers, should encourage us to close our ranks and surmount all our secondary differences in an endeavour to deliver our nation from the dangers threatening it and to carry out the tireless and sincere work in confronting all challenges and to catch up with other nations. This is reflected in a unity of will to build this nation's future. Brothers and sisters, the Military Committee for National Recovery takes this painful opportunity to appeal to you all to support its future endeavours aimed at the establishment of peace in our region and the unification of the ranks of all our people, and to guide this people along new steps on the road of recovery, progress and prosperity--the road of building a believing Islamic society [words indistinct], proud of its civilization, its heritage and its Arab and African origin. We are from God and to Him we shall return. Peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

Government Mourning Period

LD280120 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2350 GMT 27 May 79 LD

[Excerpts] Brother citizens, in the wake of the painful tragedy that befell our country today, and within the framework of the decision announced a short while ago by the chairman of the Military Committee for National Recovery and head of state, the government has decided on the following measures:

Flags are to fly at half-mast over the entire country for 40 days; educational establishments shall be shut down on 28 and 29 May; cinemas and all places of entertainment are to be closed for 40 days over the entire country. The government offers sincere condolences to their families and prays that God may give our people the courage to face this tragedy united, so as to continue the struggle of national recovery; for which the late prime minister worked sincerely and with courage. The national radio will continue to broadcast recitations from the Koran for 40 days, the national mourning period.

Acting Prime Minister Appointed

LD282130 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 28 May 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued a short while ago at the end of the meeting of the Permanent Committee of the Military Committee for National Recovery. Here is a quick translation of this statement:

The Permanent Committee of the Military Committee for National Recovery held a meeting on 28 May 1979 under the chairmanship of Col Moustapha Ould Mohamed Saleck, chairman of the military committee and head of state. After examining the points on the agenda, the Permanent Committee defined the practical steps for conveying the condolences of the Military Committee for National Recovery and the government to the family of Lt Col Ahmed Ould Bouceif, first vice chairman of the military committee and prime minister, and to the family of Capt (Njai Njad), member of the military committee for national recovery, in addition to the families of the other members of the government delegation, whom we sadly lost in the performance of their national duty. The permanent committee also decided that a service of commemoration for the first vice chairman of the Military Committee for National Recovery and prime minister should be held on Friday, 1 June 1979. Accordingly, the committee has entrusted the government with the task of making the necessary arrangements for such a service.

While awaiting the convening of an extraordinary session of the Military Committee for National Recovery--the session scheduled for Thursday, 31 May 1979--Lt Col Ahmed Salem Ould Sidi, the second vice chairman of the Military Committee for National Recovery, has been entrusted with the current and urgent affairs of the prime minister. This was the full text of the final statement issued following the deliberations of the Permanent Committee of the Military Committee for National Recovery.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI ISSUES DECREE APPOINTING DEFENSE MINISTER

JN281427 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1412 GMT 28 May 79 JN

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 28 May--President Numayri today issued a presidential decree relieving Dr Muhammad Hashin 'Awad from his post as minister of cooperation, commerce and supply. His excellency issued another decree appointing Faruq al-Maqbul as minister of cooperation, commerce and supply, and Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Khalil as defense minister and commander in chief of the people's armed forces, promoting him to the rank of general.

BEGIN INTERVIEWED AT BEN-GURION UPON RETURN FROM LONDON

TA251522 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1433 GMT 25 May 79 TA

[News conference by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin at Ben-Gurion Airport upon his return from London--live]

[Text] [Begin--intercepted in progress] That the settlers were prepared to evacuate the Ne'ot Sinai vegetable garden if I told them or authorized Professor Yadin to inform them that, in my meeting with President as-Sadat on Sunday, I will raise the problem of the vegetable garden. I said this is what I will indeed do. This is surely what I mean to do when I am in Al-'Arish and meet with President as-Sadat.

[Yoram Ronen] How do you intend to react to the behavior of the settlers [words indistinct]?

[Begin] I have only just arrived. I was happy to hear that, although grave things happened, no blood was shed.

[Yoram Ronen] Mr Prime Minister, is...

[Begin] Give your friends a chance [previous word in English]. Are there more questions?

[Unidentified correspondent] Does it seem right to you--after what was agreed on was agreed on and a treaty was completed and signed--that now a quarrel will begin with President as-Sadat over the vegetable garden or something else? To ask President as-Sadat [words indistinct]?

[Begin] What? What? What is difficult? What is the problem? I will certainly bring up the problem with him. This adds to our respect. A problem has arisen. Everybody saw there was a difficulty here, but I could not, of course, speak in President as-Sadat's name. Therefore, I announced that I authorize my friend the deputy prime minister to inform the settlers that I will talk with President as-Sadat about this. Our respect is our respect.

[Yoram Ronen] Do you see a chance to solve the dispute that arose when Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said that the borders will open in 8 months' time?

[Begin] This is indeed a most serious problem. I want to check with President as-Sadat. We had a clear agreement and it is also possible to listen to the remarks I made from Cairo, which were broadcast in Jerusalem in the evening, in As-Sadat's presence and at his request. When we met in Cairo, we achieved an agreement to the effect that we, in Al-'Arish, will declare open borders. What Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said contradicts this agreement and his remarks should therefore be clarified. I will clarify this when I meet President as-Sadat on Sunday. A good and blessed Sabbath.

[Ammon Nadav] Well, as you heard or were supposed to guess, an improvised news conference was held on the runway so that the prime minister would not have to desecrate the Sabbath and, at this moment, he is leaving for Jerusalem. Back to the studio.

AUTONOMY TALKS OPEN IN BEERSHEBA 25 MAY

TA251358 [Editorial Report TA] Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1247 GMT on 25 May transmits live from Beersheba the opening session of the autonomy negotiations.

Coverage begins with the announcer noting that U.S. Secretary of State Vance, Israeli Interior Minister Burg and Egyptian Defense Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali are entering the large hall in Beersheba university. Other personalities, including Ministers Dayan and Weizman, are said to be already seated around the negotiating table. The announcer says that numerous journalists and photographers are also present.

At 1252, Minister Burg, speaking in English, greets the members of the delegations and mentions the technical details and procedures involved in the joint autonomy negotiations.

At 1254 the floor is handed over to the Egyptian defense minister who also speaks in English. He apologizes in the name of the Egyptian prime minister, who is not able to attend the opening session. He says the two countries have pledged to end enmity in the Middle East and to achieve a just peace for all, and then briefly reviews the highlights of the peace process to date and accentuates the present need for meetings. Noting that difficulties remain but that they should be overcome with patience, efforts and understanding, the Egyptian minister points out that the ultimate target is comprehensive peace in the Middle East and a self-governing authority with full autonomy for the residents of the territories. He then proceeds to specify the principles that would guide the autonomy negotiations, and he concludes at 1306 GMT by expressing gratitude to the United States for its help to date and its promise of help in the future.

Next to speak is U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, who expresses his hope that the desired objective of comprehensive peace will finally be achieved. He says the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty is a cornerstone of this wished-for overall peace and marks the beginning of the normalization of relations between Israel and Egypt. Vance then mentions the other problems that have to be resolved, such as the Palestinian problem. He notes that the Palestinian problem is a major one in the peace-making process and that a secure and just peace cannot be achieved without resolving it. Vance adds that the United States is aware of the assurances and guarantees that should be given regarding Israel's security. He goes on to list the principles underlying the negotiations. He ends his remarks at 1317 GMT by mentioning the Arab world is now opposed to the peace process, but then expresses the hope the other parties will join the process in due course.

Burg then takes the floor and says that the task of the negotiators is to bring about the changes in the territories agreed upon by the parties. Burg, too, expresses Israel's gratitude for the role the United States has played in the peace-making process. Israel and Egypt, he says, are now "bent on a new road" intended to wipe out the ugliness and agonies of the past.

Further on in his remarks Burg states: Israel will never agree to the establishment of a Palestinian state in the territories. This is a mortal threat to the State of Israel, a threat to our very existence, to the survival of the remnants of the holocaust emerging from the dark valley of death. The residents of the territories will have their elected council while Israel should continue to enjoy security.

The Israeli minister concludes at 1328 GMT.

The radio announcer then makes short remarks about the speeches delivered by the heads of the delegations and the broadcast is returned to the studio at 1333 GMT.

Burg Speech

TA251450 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1317 GMT 25 May 79 TA

[Speech in English by Israeli Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg at the opening session of the autonomy talks in Beersheba University in Israel--live]

[Text] Thank you, Mr Secretary. And now, with your permission, permit me to address you in the name of the delegation of the Israeli Government.

Gentlemen: On September 17th, 1978, President as-Sadat and Prime Minister Menahem Begin signed the Camp David framework agreements for peace in the Middle East, witnessed by President Jimmy Carter. This document and the subsequent joint letter of March 26th, 1979, are the mandate that brings us here today. We are met with the goal of reaching agreement on the establishment of an elected administrative council in order to provide full autonomy for the Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District. Our task is to reach an accord between us prior to the election of this administrative council on the modalities of its establishment, define its powers and responsibilities and agree upon other related issues. Having reached such an agreement, we would wish that the envisaged democratic elections speedily take place in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District.

The tasks ahead of us are great and, no doubt, complex. We enter negotiations mindful of the responsibilities which history has placed on our shoulders. It is obvious that it is not possible to resolve overnight the bitter conflict which has gone on for so many years. We realize that before us lies a long and difficult road of negotiations. I am confident that we, Egypt and Israel, shall work together to reach understanding and agreement as expeditiously as we can. In this effort we shall benefit, as before, from the valuable assistance of the Government of the United States, whose representatives will participate fully in all stages of the negotiations.

Mr Secretary, I deem it appropriate at this time and this place to reiterate to you and through you to the President of the United States the deepest gratitude for America's role, important role, in advancing the course of our regional peace, as reflected in the first indispensable and historic step: the treaty of peace between Egypt and Israel. We have already proven to each other how the common will for peace provides solutions to problems that otherwise seem illusive, how obstacles to progress fade away in the presence of common purpose, and how a patient ear precludes polemics and misunderstandings.

We, Egypt and Israel, both have lived through the convulsions and agonies of our region for so long. Drama and trauma have gone hand in hand, caught in a vicious grip of enmity and warfare and bereavement. No more. We are now bent on a different course, and already the pure fresh breath of coexistence, trust, dialog and peace is dispersing the ugly pollution of the past.

We meet in Beersheba, the city of our common forefather Abraham. It is, perhaps, most appropriate that here, in this place, we--Egypt and Israel--make our rendezvous with history, ancient and modern, to talk of Eretz Yisra'el. Our founding patriarchs and matriarchs lie buried just to the north in the town of Hebron. Jerusalem, the eternal capital city of Israel founded by David the king, crowns the hills of Judaea, from where our prophets preached the message of eternal peace in a land which has known so much strife.

Yes, it is to end the strife, to extend the peace, to insure security and to promote the coexistence of its inhabitants--Jews and Arabs--that we are met. Herein lies the justice in the validity of the autonomy, the details of which we shall negotiate in the weeks and months ahead. At its very heart lies the conviction that the Palestinian Arabs should and must conduct their own daily life for themselves and by themselves. It was this that motivated the Government of Israel as early as December 1977 to propose autonomy, full autonomy, for the Palestinian Arabs, inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District. What I must make clear, and what must be understood from the outset, is that the autonomy does not and cannot imply sovereignty. If it is peace and welfare of people that we seek--and this, above all, has to be our common task ahead--then we must, by definition, reject a priori an independent Palestinian statehood. Israel will not agree and, indeed, totally rejects the propositions: declaration of establishment of a Palestinian state in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District. By everything we know to be true, it would be the certain prescription for violence and war. Indeed, it would be a mortal danger to Israel and a great peril to the whole free world. No hostile element or agent or force dare control the heartland of this land to threaten the lives of its city dwellers and villagers and thereby hold the knife to the jugular vein of Israel.

Twenty-two independent Arab states astride Africa and Asia, from the Persian Gulf to the Atlantic Ocean--surely there has never been such an expression in the families of nations of self-determination and sovereignty. Our world has but one Jewish state, right in its ancient land. And the people of this land, nay, people of decency and goodwill everywhere, will not and cannot acquiesce to any measure that might put that surviving remnant of our unspeakable holocaust into jeopardy. After having walked through the valley of the shadow of death, we shall never again allow life, liberty, indeed existence itself to be in peril. This is acknowledged and reflected in the Camp David accord which addresses itself to Israel's right to security as an essential condition of the peace. It is an integral feature of the autonomy. It is upon this foundation that the autonomy shall be built, whereby the Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District shall exercise control over their own daily life and activity through their self-elected administrative council. Israel shall enjoy security. These are the principles and the provisions stipulated in the Camp David agreement.

Distinguished members of the delegation, we meet here in sincere purpose. We meet with you with a sense of responsibility to the past and toward the generations of the future. We meet together for the sake of the peace with all our neighbors with whom we wish to live always in mutual respect and cooperation.

We have problems to solve together, challenges to overcome together. I am confident that we shall find the appropriate solution. To do so, we shall, all of us, have to muster our statesmanship, our moral integrity and our diplomatic ingenuity. Let us do so with courage and caution as befits the historic responsibilities we share. There is urgency to our work, but there is also much need for the patient craftsmanship of devoted negotiators who are moved by high purpose.

Let us now set about constructing the next step on the ladder of peace. We hope that others might join us in our work. I call upon the Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District to seize this opportunity to embark upon this new beginning and to share with us, Egypt and Israel both, in mapping a future that will guarantee the peace and future of this land, in which we are destined to live together for all times.

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to keep silence and a time to speak a time to live and a time to hate; a time for war and a time for peace. [Ecclesiastes, Chapter 3, Verses 7 and 8] We pray that the Almighty might grant us his guidance in our efforts.

Thank you very much.

'Ali Speech

TA251436 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1254 GMT 25 May 79 TA

[Speech in English by Egyptian Defense and War Production Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali at the opening session of the automony negotiations at Beersheba University in Israel--live]

[Text] Before I deliver my speech, I would like to inform you that, according to the instructions of President as-Sadat, Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil, for procedural considerations, was not able to participate in the opening session and requested me to deliver the speech he prepared for that occasion. He will be very pleased to welcome the delegations to our next meeting on June 1st in Alexandria.

Minister Burg, Secretary Vance, dear friends:

On another historic day we meet again in our relentless pursuit of peace that was initiated by President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem on that unforgettable day. Ever since, we pledged to Jerusalem on that unforgettable day. Ever since, we pledged ourselves to end enmity, hatred and war forever and to establish a just and comprehensive peace which will lead to normal and friendly relations between our nations in the Middle East. Thus, our nations would have the opportunity to devote their energies and creative potential to the common cause of bringing about prosperity and progress for each and every individual in our region. To achieve this noble goal, Egypt and Israel, in spite of being in a state of war, resolved to take the pioneering steps of sitting together and negotiating, with the determination to reach not a separate peace agreement but a comprehensive peace settlement in the region with the active participation of the United States of America as a full partner. The three parties recognize, without any doubt, that establishing a just and a comprehensive peace in the Middle East is not only in the interest of their people, but is also a vital achievement in the interest of all nations of the world as it will be a solid foundation for establishing order and stability and eliminate the causes of future conflict, instability and outside intervention.

We knew that the task was difficult and that the challenge was tremendous. Yet, we were equally aware of the necessity for making peace for the living generations and the generations to come. From the very beginning we were confronted with difficulties which were considered unsurmountable. It is true that President as-Sadat's historic initiative broke the psychological barrier and threw the entire conflict into a different perspective. However, we were still at war with each other. A certain degree of tension persisted. The shortcomings of Security Council Resolution 242 left their impact throughout the process. Many were discouraged and even demoralized by these difficulties. At times, it appeared as if we were moving in a vicious circle. Nevertheless, the momentum for peace proved to be stronger than all these obstacles combined.

President as-Sadat has emphasized repeatedly that the Palestinian problem is the heart and the crux of the entire conflict. Through patience and perseverence, we were able to reach an agreement in Camp David on a framework for peace in the Middle East.

It was the first time such a comprehensive document was drafted and approved as the basis for a peace settlement. It dealt with the aspects of the problem in a clear manner. It was unlikely to invite different interpretations. With the breakthrough, we proceeded to translate the document into a workable mechanism for peace. The outcome was two treaties, two complementary documents which were signed simultaneously on 26 March, 1979.

We are here today to implement the agreement we signed on the establishment of the self-governing authority in the West Bank and Gaza. Much has been said about the difficulties for reaching an agreement on that point. Positions taken and actions carried out lately have blurred the hope of many of us for a solution that would constitute a second but most crucial step along the road to a comprehensive settlement. However, I believe that we should not be discouraged. The issues at stake should not make us lose sight of the new reality.

We are today negotiating under circumstances which are different altogether. We are no longer the enemies of the past. Rather, we are the good neighbors who are laying the solid foundations for a lasting friendship between the Israelis and all the Arabs. In addition, we are not working from a vacuum. We have the framework and the agreement on the establishment of the self-governing authority with full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza.

Many Arabs and Israelis and, in fact, millions of friends throughout the world, are watching our deliberations with hope and anticipation. None of us can bear the responsibility of defeating these hopes or suppressing these expectations. None of us will be forgiven if he violates the new spirit of peace and reconciliation. What is needed is a more enlightened attitude based on the realization of the grave consequences of the failure of our efforts. We all know that much will depend on the success of our endeavor. What remains to be done is to have faith in peace and proceed to tackle the problems with hope and confidence. We have to be determined to reach an agreement.

I suggest that we bear in mind the following guidelines:

First, that we are not here to determine the future of the Palestinian people. Only the Palestinians themselves can make such a decision, for self-determination is their God-given right. Our task is merely to define the powers and responsibilities of the self-governing authority with full autonomy and the modalities for electing it. In this endeavor we shall be guided by the letter and the spirit of the Camp David framework as well as related documents. It is our joint responsibility to agree on the necessary steps for the transfer of authority from the Israeli military government to the Palestinian Government.

Second, the principle of inadmissability of the acquisition of territory by war as stipulated in Resolution 242 should be respected and implemented in connection with the West Bank, including Arab Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip, which were occupied in 1967. In this context, Arab Jerusalem will become a living testimony to the possibility of coexistence and cooperation between all peoples of the area.

Third, Resolution 242 in all its parts should be respected in the overall solution of the Palestinian problem as provided for in the framework.

Fourth, the Geneva convention related to the protection of civilian persons in time of war is applicable to all the Arab territories occupied by Israel in 1967. Consequently, all the measures taken by Israel in the West Bank and Gaza which tend to alter their demographic composition or geographic character and, in particular, the establishment of settlements, have no legal validity.

On the other hand, Israeli legislative and administrative measures or actions which were taken to change the status of Arab Jerusalem are null and void.

Fifth, the human rights and fundamental freedom of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip should be strictly and immediately respected.

In conclusion, I would like to state that our ability to carry out our commitment will be greatly enhanced by the constructive role of our full partner, President Carter pioneered in pledging to play this role throughout the peace process until peace is established between Israel and all her neighbors. We highly value such a firm commitment from the leader of this great nation. We hope to remain together on the road to peace until all the grievances are remedied, and until all suffering is eliminated.

Thank you.

DATE SET FOR NEXT ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN MEETING

TA251511 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 25 May 79 TA

[Text] In the closed meeting of the autonomy deliberations in Beersheba, it was decided that the next meeting will be in Alexandria on 6 and 7 June. This was learned by our correspondent Arye Shor.

The members of the Egyptian delegation took off for Cairo a short while ago.

Ministers Burg and Vance told correspondents that today's talks were good. The U.S. secretary of state noted that the disagreements between the parties are known, but there is a basis for dialog. Minister Burg said that he is not surprised about the tone of the speech of the Egyptian defense minister since every party can present his position.

EGYPT's AS-SADAT ARRIVES IN AL-'ARISH 26 MAY

TA261612 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 26 May 79 TA

[Text] President As-Sadat himself hoisted the Egyptian flag at noon at the former military government square in Al-'Arish. This marked the peak of the festivities in the Sinai capital.

As-Sadat came to the Al-'Arish airport dressed in an admiral's uniform. Immediately upon his arrival, he knelt and prayed. Later, he went to the ceremony grounds and received the Egyptian flag from three Egyptian officers. He kissed the flag and walked round the ceremony grounds holding it. Everyone assembled there, including disabled Egyptian war veterans, senior officers, ministers and other notables, kissed the flag. As As-Sadat hoisted it, dozens of white doves and ballons bearing his portrait were released.

Afterward, the Egyptian president went to pray and rest at the Al-'Arish town hall.

The broadcasting authority reporters were not allowed to report live from the site, as had been originally planned.

BEGIN MAKES SPEECH AT AL-'ARISH CEREMONY

TA271140 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1104 GMT 27 May 79 TA

[Remarks by Prime Minister Menahem Begin in English in Al-'Arish following As-Sadat's speech--live]

[Summary] "Mr President, Mr Secretary, members of the Egyptian and Israeli Cabinets, soldiers, heroes of Egypt, soldiers, heroes of Israel, my glorious brothers," here we meet fighting men "who gave great sacrifices for their nations" and who have served their countries with their blood who are here now shaking hands with each other. "This is a symbolic meeting of the fighters, the wounded soldiers of Egypt and Israel. This is the greatness of the way. Let us give praise to our heavenly father, to God Almighty that we live to see such a day after 31 years of a state of war. After five wars in which our friends in the thousands lost their lives, we pay honor to all of them in Egypt and in Israel, and tens of thousands who were wounded.

"Mr President, it is a moving moment in the lives of both of us and of our nations." How long is the road we already passed together until we meet in Al-'Arish, no more as enemies, but as friends, as good neighbors, in understanding and above all with this promise in our hearts: No more war, everlasting peace.

And to you, Mr Secretary, I would like, I am sure together with President as-Sadat, to ask you to thank the U.S. President, our dear common friend Mr Jimmy Carter, for all the services he rendered to us.

Further Remarks

TA271148 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1115 GMT 27 May 79 TA

[Further remarks by Prime Minister Menahem Begin in English in Al-'Arish following remarks by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance--live]

[Text] With the permission of the president, I would like to make an announcement about certain agreements we reached in a talk which lasted less than 15 minutes. First, the president and I proclaim here in Al-'Arish that the borders of Egypt and Israel are open. [applause]

Citizens of Egypt will be able to visit Israel, citizens of Israel will be able to visit Egypt.

Secondly, the president and I will meet during the first week of July. The president invited me to come to Alexandria. Alexandria is a beautiful city. Haifa is also a very beautiful city and I have accepted his kind invitation and during the first week in July, the president and I shall meet for the whole day to hold important talks about problems of our common concern.

Meanwhile the foreign minister, Moshe Dayan, will visit his colleague Dr Ghali. In Cairo he will meet with the prime minister, Dr Khalil, for arranging all the outstanding matters between the two countries. [Word indistinct] there will be a session of the two negotiating committees in Alexandria and then, at the request of the president, I would like to say that when I come back home I will take steps to set free a number of prisoners whose release will not impair Israel's security. [applause]

PRIME MINISTER BEGIN SPEAKS AT BEERSHEBA UNIVERSITY

TA271606 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1506 GMT 27 May 79 TA

[Speech in English by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin at Ben-Gurion University in Beersheba on the occasion of Egyptian President as-Sadat's visit--live]

[Text] Mr President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Mr Vice President, Mr Secretary of State of the United States, Chairmen of the Board of Governors of the Ben-Gurion University, President and Director of the university, members of the Egyptian and of the Israeli Cavinets, Mr Speaker of the Knesset, Mr President of the Supreme Court and the justices, our masters and teachers, the rabbis, Chairman of the Zionist Executive, Your Excellencies, the eminences of all religions, Chief of Staff of the Israeli Army, commanding officers of the Egyptian and Israeli armies, leaders of the opposition in the Knesset, secretary general of the Histradrut, members of our parliaments, professors, students, honorable guests, ladies and gentlemen:

We signed and duly ratified and brought into effect the treaty of peace between our two ancient nations. It is no doubt a turning point in the history of Egypt and Israel, in the annals of the region in which our nations were born, established the kingdoms and civilizations, contributed great values to the culture of mankind, were oppressed and subjugated, fought for liberation, regained their independence. In the case of the Jewish people, I have to add a unique phenomenon: the return to the land of the forefathers--Eretz Yisra'el--that wonderous return after 19 centuries of oppression, dispersion and suffering, to the sacred land given to our people by God and liberated and rebuilt by valiant men. For 31 years, since we reconstituted the national home for the Jewish people--Israel--a state of war existed between our two countries. It had a grave, painful bearing on the lives and development of our peoples, on their social structure, on their economic situation. The flight time between our main airports is only 45 minutes; as we, President as-Sadat and I and our colleages, are going to experience later in the day. But for almost two generations, this small geographical distance was an impassable infinity. Our young fighting men met five times on the battlefields that, unavoidably, mutually inflicted severe losses in life and limb.

Now, this state of war is terminated in the wake of the exchange of the ratification documents. Peace and neighborliness are established between us and open borders will be peacefully crossed in both directions by our citizens. [applause]

Practical steps have already been taken in normalization, which is much more than the opposite of a state of war, which indeed is the essence of peace. A boat flying the Israeli flag has sailed from Suez and passed the Suez Canal to Port Said while good-hearted Egyptian citizens cheered its crew. The canal will continue to be open for all Israeli vessels.

Al-'Arish was peacefully and amicably transferred to Egyptian sovereignty. I am convinced that both countries are determined to carry our faithfully all the commitments under the peace treaty concerning withdrawal stages of forces, demilitarization, which must insure that the Sinai Desert will never again become a (?place d'ame) for a ruthful [as heard] attack, and the establishment of completely normal and friendly relations as befits two nations which freely decided to put an end to the state of war and live side by side as good neighbors.

I believe, ladies and gentlemen, that I can say that today both President as-Sadat and I send from this ancient city of Abraham our thanks and greetings to the President of the United States, Mr Jimmy Carter, who rendered to us [applause] historic services in bringing about this great achievement. At Camp David, with the help of President Carter, we reached an agreement on an additional subject, an agreement which we signed in Washington on the 17th of December. On behalf of the Government of Israel, I wish to declare that we shall carry out all the stipulations of that agreement, too, in letter and in spirit. Good faith should prevail amongst us. Israel, I have the honor to say, already has given decisive proof of her good faith.

In the Camp David agreement it is written that Israel, Jordan and Egypt will negotiate the modalities, the powers and responsibilities of the self-governing authority--the administrative council--to be freely elected by the Palestinian Arabs--inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District. We have invited both in written and spoken word the Jordanian Government to participate in the negotiations. It refused. As peace is involved, I will not hesitate to repeat this invitation. But until today, King Husayn's refusal is a fact of life. Had we acted by the letter itself, we could have said: Let us wait to start the negotiations to provide full autonomy for the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District until Jordan agrees to join us in the talks. But we do not say so. Notwithstanding the fact that Jordan refuses to participate, we are prepared to negotiate and we have already started to negotiate with our friends the Egyptian delegation only with the purpose to do our best to reach an agreement.

The constructive idea of autonomy is ours. At Camp David it was accepted by both the American and the Egyptian delegations. It is a progressive, noble idea. The Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District will elect their own administrative council which will deal with all the aspects of their daily lives without interference. We shall reserve security, which under the circumstances of the destructive, inhuman, bloodthirsty rampage by the genocidal so-called PLO is an absolute inescapable necessity of life already recognized by every man of good will. Then, Jews and Arabs will live in Eretz Yisra'el in peace, in security, in goodwill, in human dignity, in common attention.

The negativists, the enemies of peace, claim that Egypt and Israel signed a separate peace treaty. We did not. We consider and believe that by the signing of the treaty between Egypt and Israel we made the first but, indeed, the decisive step toward a comprehensive peace settlement in our region; the first step to be followed in the future, with God's help, by peace treaties with other neighbors of Israel. This is our goal, our resolve. This is what we are striving for. Such is the purpose we are determined to work for. And if the others are willing, so it shall be. And with God's help, the Middle East--the cradle of human civilization--will again become the source of human rights. [applause]

PRESIDENT NAVON MAKES SPEECH AT BEERSHEBA

NC271645 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1303 GMT 27 May 79 NC

[Speech in Arabic by President Yitzhaq Navon in the Beersheba municipality plaza on the occasion of President as-Sadat's visit to Beersheba--live]

[Text] Mr President, leader of the immortal valley of the Nile, leader of mother Egypt--the fountainhead of Arab civilization: I heartily welcome you and your distinguished companions in Israel and in the city of our grandfather Abraham, peace be with him.

I welcome you in my capacity as the head of state of Israel and on my own behalf and on behalf of all the citizens of this state--Jews and Arabs. My welcome of you does not stem from protocol formalities but is a true expression of deep feelings of respect and appreciation we harbor for your esteemed person and your benevolent deeds and for the noble Egyptian people and their great country, the cradle of ancient civilization.

You have come to us from the Sinai capital of Al'-Arish, which we have returned to you in accordance with the peace treaty. Under this treaty Egypt will recover all of Sinai after 3 years.

Our withdrawal from Sinai--frankly speaking--is not an easy matter for us. We will be giving up an important strategic depth, an area three times greater than the area of the State of Israel, airports which we built with great effort and a big network of roads, installations, stores and vital oil resources. More so, people will be evacuated who have built their homes with sweat and effort.

Nevertheless, it is crystal clear that the State of Israel fulfills its commitments sincerely. It wants to see the peace-making process and the normalization of relations between us take place at a faster pace and in a more concrete way.

Mr President, in the short period to come we must explore suitable ways to strengthen the relations of peace among our peoples. What gladdens the hearts of all of us is that our peoples have expressed their genuine desire for peace through several manifestations and that this desire is not confined to ministers and military men.

Furthermore, we believe that the exchange of culture and knowledge is no less important than the military and political arrangements. It is desirable that we should pave the way for this.

Several years of hostilities and wars have barred the possibility of mutual knowledge of the true character of each people. We have lived for a long time encompassed in a feeling that the picture drawn of us in your literature and information media bears no relationship whatsoever to the truth. We only want you to know us as we are with our virtues and shortcomings.

We are a noble people who have returned to their land after 2,000 years in the Diaspora. We are a people few in number but courageous people who live peace with all our hearts. We are a people who with our blood have watered the flowers of human civilization and who want now to irrigate with water our small land.

We also do not know you well enough. Some of us who were not born in the Arab countries want to become closely acquainted with your great civilization and the character of the good-natured and noble Egyptian people.

We know that this mutual acquaintance cannot be completed overnight. We also know that psychological barriers obstruct this acquaintance. However, it is vital if we want to establish peace on a solid foundation; and there is no solid foundation better than peoples.

Mr President, the sons of this generation, Arab and Jews, have the impression that all meetings between the Arab and Jewish peoples are characterized by hostility and hatred. There is nothing farther from the truth than this. In the past there have been fruitful and cordial meetings which actually reached the level of comradeship-in-arms against a third party.

Not only in the distant past but as recently as 60 years ago with the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, the leaders of the Arab and Jewish national movements considered their movements as complementing one another and they cooperated on that basis. In 1919, Chaim Weizmann and Prince Faysal ibn al-Husayn, the prince of Hijaz, signed a famous cooperation agreement to achieve the aims of the two sides for national independence.

In a message which Prince Faysal sent to one of the leaders of the Zionist movement in the United States, Felix Frankfurter, He said: We believe the Arabs and Jews are true cousins. They suffered together from the same oppression at the hands of forces greater than them. Thanks to certain positive conditions, they succeeded in taking together the first steps toward achieving their national goals. We the Arabs, particularly the intellectuals among us, view the Zionist movement with deep sympathy. Dr Weizmann has given a great assistance to our cause and I hope that the Arabs will soon be in a position to return some of the gratitude to the Jews.

We are working together to reform and revive the Middle East. Our two movements supplement each other. The Jewish movement is a national movement and not an imperialist one. Our movement is also a national movement and not an imperialist one.

This is what the amir of Hijaz said. It was very possible to turn this vision into a living reality were it not for the opposition of some elements in the area and were it not for the interference of major states with foreign interests which conflicted with our common aims. Who knows if a leader, like U.S. President Jimmy Carter, had emerged during that epoch and contributed like him in drawing the parties closer to peace through tireless and continuous efforts--who knows if it wouldn't have been possible to change the face of history.

Your Excellency the President: History does not remain stationary. It is in continuous motion providing many opportunities and circumstances for mankind. A man often does not see what is taking place around him and opportunities slip past him and he remains stationary where he is. You, Mr President, have always said that it is impossible to progress without change and that those who cannot change their ideas cannot change their situation. You, personally, have been given this ability. You inspire your strength from a deep inner faith and from feeling for the divine message. You also have a perceptive outlook on the real situation.

Your personality is a combination of the countryman who appreciates the value of land and every drop of water and every bit of bread and of openness to the comprehensive human idea, its culture and its sciences. Your life is integrated with the life of Egypt--Mit Abu al-Kawm, Zahran, cell number 54 in the prison, the revolution, evacuation, the presidency, war, the agreements, Jerusalem, Al-'Arish and Beersheba.

When you turned toward changes, you found in us sincere allies in the desire to change the conditions in which we lived. The Israeli prime minister, Menahem Begin, has firmly, continuously and unceasingly sought to establish peace. He resisted the strong winds which blew his way. Under his leadership, the government has not been afraid to adopt the difficult decisions that would bring about the great change. The Knesset--the representative of the people--has supported the peace treaty with an overwhelming majority of its members from the Coalition and opposition. It is fully aware of the high cost of peace.

We did not sign a phased settlement at Camp David but we actually signed a permanent peace agreement. We did not sign a separate agreement but an agreement which constitutes a framework for a comprehensive agreement with all the peoples in the area. This might appear difficult and beyond reach now. However certain matters appeared impossible yesterday but they are being realized today. Likewise, other matters which appear beyond reach now will be realized tomorrow.

Let the other peoples in the area join the bandwagon of peace. It is peace which will guarantee life for the sons of the area and will also guarantee revival and prosperity for all its peoples. May God's peace and blessings be with you.

AS-SADAT MISHEARS NAVON REMARKS, REACTS, APOLOGIZES

TA271731 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 27 May 79 TA

[Text] A slight misunderstanding that arose between President Navon and President as-Sadat was mended in good spirits after the two talked privately in Beersheba. In his speech at the municipality, President Navon spoke of Israel's great sacrifice in returning the Sinai, which is important to its security.

In his response, President as-Sadat deviated from the written version of his speech and reacted to Navon's statement. Afterwards, it was revealed that As-Sadat thought that Navon had said in that sentence: We gave you territories. President Navon, however, showed him his error and President as-Sadat apologized for the deviation in his speech.

Our correspondent Razi Barqa-i reports that the talk between the two presidents after the reception at the municipality was very friendly. The talk was conducted partly in Arabic and both expressed the hope that this day would be a turning point in relations between the two countries.

AS-SADAT, BEGIN DISCUSS RELATIONS DURING CEREMONIAL FLIGHT

TA280836 Jerusalem POST in English 28 May 79 p 10 TA

[Report by David Landau on remarks by Israeli Prime Minister Begin and Egyptian President as-Sadat to newsmen during 27 May ceremonial flight to open Israeli-Egyptian air corridor: "Begin and As-Sadat Flying High"]

[Excerpt] Hazerim--Egypt's President as-Sadat pledged last night that the border opening that he and Premier Menahem Begin had announced earlier yesterday would be implemented "as fast as possible." He said the announcement of "open borders" certainly meant "an acceleration" of the schedule for normalization laid down in the peace treaty package.

With Begin at his side as his presidential jet streaked across the sands of Sinai, As-Sadat declared: "We have agreed on the principle that whenever we can give the peace process a momentum we shall do it."

U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance accompanied the Israeli and Egyptian leaders on their ceremonial flight.

Speaking with a small group of newsmen allowed on the flight, As-Sadat said it would now be up to ministers from the two countries to negotiate the details of the speeded-up normalization. "We have agreed together today," he said, nodding at Begin.

"It is now the duty of the ministers to make the other preparations for this."

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, also on the flight, said Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan would be coming to Cairo next Monday (June 14) to discuss with him the arrangements for the open borders.

President as-Sadat revealed that he had been at odds with Ghali and the Foreign Ministry over the "open borders" issue. This was the reason for the string of contradictory statements that had emanated from Cairo, he indicated.

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs opposes the idea," As-Sadat said. "But I gave my promise to Premier Begin (at their meeting in Cairo in March - D.L.). When the minister (Ghali) was asked, he put forward the ministry's point of view...

"But I gave Begin my promise. There has never been any conflict or misunderstanding at all. We had a very long discussion in Egypt before I came; and it was either I convince them or they convince me. Well, fortunately, I convinced them..."

The uncertainty that still exists over what precisely the speeded-up normalization will entail was reflected in remarks by the top Egyptian officials. Defense Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali told Israel radio at midday that the borders would be open only for restricted parties, such as official and specially invited delegations.

But As-Sadat's close aide Hasan Kamil told this reporter aboard the plane that the announcement of open borders would mean traffic in both directions by ordinary people. "It couldn't just mean official delegations, because we have that already, so there is no need to announce it," Kamil reasoned.

The purpose of yesterday evening's flight (which was truncated to 45 minutes instead of the scheduled 90 minutes as time was short), As-Sadat explained. was to signify the open borders. But he stressed that the national airlines, El Al and Egypt Air, would not by flying the newly inaugurated air corridor--at least not at first. He said that "perhaps" TWA, an American company, would operate the service initially. Later, specialists from Israel and Egypt would meet together to negotiate a civil aviation agreement, he said.

Asked if his relations with the Israeli premier were "improving with every meeting," As-Sadat replied: "Yes, for sure. For sure, yes."

Reporter: "Do you think he will begin toning down his statements regarding settlements?"

As-Sadat: "Let us hope so. Let us hope so." As-Sadat said he had found Begin's address at the Negev university earlier in the day "a good speech."

Begin for his part said that both he and As-Sadat were "born optimists" and that yesterday had been "a wonderful day." When these remarks were translated for As-Sadat from the Hebrew, he nodded vigorously in approval.

As-Sadat sidestepped a question about the commonality of strategic interests between Egypt and Israel in the face of Soviet-inspired subversion in the region. He did not talk about these problems with Begin, he said.

"We are dealing mainly with the Arab-Israeli conflict....we're really very busy with the most important negotiations that we are going to start regarding the full autonomy.... I was very happy in Al-'Arish and Beersheba today (but) I am looking forward to the day when we reach agreement on the autonomy for the Western Bank and Gaza."

As-Sadat said he had not discussed with Begin the precise number of Palestinian political prisoners whom Israel will release in a goodwill gesture.

"The number is left to him (Begin)," As-Sadat said. "I'm sure he will be very generous."

EGYPT ADAMANT ON ISSUE OF NE'OT SINAI VEGETABLE GARDEN

TA272014 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 27 May 79 TA

[Text] President as-Sadat told the prime minister that he is unable to do a thing regarding the Ne'ot Sinai vegetable garden and that the issue has to be dealt with in accordance with the peace treaty. He said this to Mr Begin, who raised the issue at the meeting with the Egyptian president at Al-'Arish this morning.

Our correspondent Aharon Barne'a says that tomorrow the prime minister will report to a plenary session of the Cabinet on his talks with President as-Sadat.

16 SECURITY PRISONERS RELEASED AS GESTURE

TA281010 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 28 May 79 TA

[Text] An hour ago Israel released 16 Arab prisoners from jail, including ten administrative detainees and six who were sentenced by military courts, as a gesture to President as-Sadat. Our military correspondent Roni Daniyel points out that the six who were sentenced by military courts had committed light security offences and were sentenced to between 1 and 2 years in jail. The guideline in the choice of those liberated was that their release not be a security risk.

Our correspondent reports that seven of the 16 who were released are being transferred at this moment to Al-'Arish via the border post, at their request. The other nine will be returned to their homes in Judaea and Samaria today. Our correspondent also says that more prisoners might be released, also as a gesture to President as-Sadat.

BEGIN BRIEFS CARTER ON TALKS WITH AS-SADAT

TA272110 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 27 May 79 TA

[Text] This evening, the prime minister telephoned President Carter, who is at Camp David, and briefed him on his talks with President as-Sadat today and on the conclusions that were reached at those meetings. Mr Begin told President Carter that he and As-Sadat agreed to open the borders between the two countries at once and to establish an air corridor that would shorten the journey between Cairo and Tel Aviv.

CABINET MEETS 28 MAY, MINISTERS REPORT

TA281611 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1555 GMT 28 May 79 TA

[Text] Jerusalem, 28 May--The prime minister reported to the Cabinet on his talks with the Egyptian president.

It was also reported to the Cabinet that the Prime Minister, the deputy prime minister and the foreign minister will shortly pay separate visits to Egypt.

The interior minister reported to the Cabinet on the opening of the negotiations on the arrangements for the autonomy of the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el residing in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

The deputy prime minister, the defense minister and the justice minister reported to the Cabinet about the situation of the Ne'ot Sinai vegetable garden.

The Cabinet appointed two ministers to take charge of evacuating the settlements in Sinai. Minister Ari'el Sharon will be in charge of the agricultural settlements in the Yamit District and in Sinai, and Minister David Levy will be in charge of the towns of Yamit and Ofira. This cancels the appointment of the director general of the prime minister's office who has been responsible for those settlements so far.

The Cabinet completely discussed the treasury's proposals regarding the economic policy. Almost all the Cabinet members participated in the discussion and the prime minister and finance minister concluded it. The Cabinet decided that the vote on the draft proposals will be conducted at another meeting to be held tomorrow.

UN FORCES TO REMAIN IN SINAI FOLLOWING AL-'ARISH HANDOVER

TA270728 Jerusalem POST in English 27 May 79 p 2 TA

[By Hirsh Goodman]

[Excerpt] The UN will not change the status of its forces in the Sinai until clear instructions arrive from the Security Council, and thus there has been no UN redeployment in the Sinai as a result of the return of Al-'Arish to Egypt.

Israel and Egypt, early in the joint committee negotiations, agreed to handle matters on a bilateral basis if the UN is unable to keep pace with the peace process because of Soviet reticence--the Russians having the power to veto any change in status of the UN force.

Thus, the road which runs between Al-'Arish and Bir Lahfan, which has now been returned to Egyptian sovereignty, but which Israel must continue to use to pull back its forces from the rest of Sinai, will be manned by joint Israeli-Egyptian liaison officers, who will escort convoys back and forth, and not by the UN. There will also be no UN presence at any of the roadblocks established by the Egyptians at the entrance to Al-'Arish.

The current mandate of the UN forces in the Sinai expires on 24 July. Both Israel and Egypt have agreed until then to allow the matter of UN participation in the peace process, as envisioned in the Camp David accords, to remain an open question. There is concern that the Soviets, consistent with their opposition to the peace treaty, will refuse to allow the international community to play an active role in executing the agreement. They are thus expected to veto an extension of the mandate.

The alternative is either a bilateral arrangement, or one which will use the good offices of the U.S. extensively, totally neutralizing any participation by the Soviet Union or its allies. Observers feel that the Soviets may therefore agree to the establishment of an observers force (a non-participatory force in a buffer capacity).

This observer force would, as has been the case up to now, include contingents from Soviet satellite countries.

ANTI-ISRAELI INCIDENT MARS EVACUATION OF AL-'ARISH

TA251631 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1612 GMT 25 May 79 TA

[Excerpt] The departure of the senior Egyptian officers from the area of the ceremony in Al-'Arish further excited the already excited local people and drew them eastward, in the direction of the Israeli concentration in the eastern part of the town.

There was a small group of Gush Emunim people and a few Ne'ot Sinai women there who shouted slogans against the peace treaty and tried to demonstrate. However, their voices were inaudible due to their small number and they were immediately removed without any resistance.

IDF armored cars then started heading toward the exit from the town together with the officers cars, trucks filled with soldiers and buses loaded with journalists. At this point, they had to go through the excited, inflamed crowds and unpleasant incidents, the like of which have not occurred in Al-'Arish during the last month, took place.

Inflamed youths began cursing, pushing the vehicles and even spitting in the direction of the soldiers. There was no attempt to retaliate. The tendency was to get out of there as soon as possible and to move eastward toward the roadblock.

One of the correspondents, DAVAR's Dan Tzidqoni, climbed aboard an Israeli military jeep and called several times in Arabic: "Long Live the IDF." He was stoned and beaten by inflamed youths until the soldiers managed to rescue him and take him out of the town. He claimed later that he could not bear the insult of youths' spitting at IDF soldiers and nobody's reacting.

By about 1200, Al-'Arish was empty of all Israelis, military and civilian, except for several reporters of the broadcasting authority who remained, according to a special agreement, to cover the events expected on Saturday and Sunday.

BEIRUT RADIO REPORT ON IDF SHELLING DENIED

TA270558 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0545 GMT 27 May 79 TA

[Text] This morning Radio Beirut reported that IDF artillery shelled terrorist concentrations in southern Lebanon yesterday evening and late into the night. Israeli military sources deny the report. It might refer to an artillery battle between the terrorists and the Christians. Radio Beirut further reported that the Lebanese representative in the United Nations met with the secretary general of the United Nations and gave him details of the shelling. As has been said, military sources in Israel deny the report.

25 MAY DEMONSTRATION CONVERGES ON U.S. EMBASSY

LD251112 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 May 79 LD

[Text] Hundreds of thousands of the struggling Muslim people of Tehran, in orderly groups of men and women carrying various slogans and placards and chanting such slogans as "Death to the United States, " "Death to Carter," "Death to Israel," "The Revolution Is Victorious" and "Left and Right Are Vanquished" today marched from Tehran's four corners along the capital's avenues to converge on the U.S. Embassy.

The demonstrators expressed their support for the struggling Muslim people of Palestine and the Muslim liberation movements in other countries. They set fire to the Israeli flag outside the Palestine Embassy. Opposite the U.S. Embassy the demonstrators also tore up the U.S. flag and symbolically executed pictures of Carter and Begin.

As soon as the reports of these mammoth demonstrations are ready they will be broadcast on Voice and Profile of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Further Report

LD251823 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 May 79 LD

[Text] Nearly 15,000 Cherikha-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq members, school children and students today staged a demonstration expressing their support for Imam Khomeyni's inviolable position and carrying anti-U.S. slogans. The demonstrators marched toward the U.S. Embassy.

During the demonstration, some participants carried slogans such as "China, the USSR and the United States of America Are Our People's Enemies," thus overshadowing the slogans carried by the Cherikha-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq and those of the vanguard students, which were solely aimed against the United States. The former group delayed the latter's march.

13-Point Resolution Issued

LD251920 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 May 79 LD

[Text] After today's march and demonstrations a 13-point resolution was issued by Muslim and Islamic societies. The resolution states:

1. While expressing our boundless admiration for our selfless and uncompromising leader, we will always illuminate our path by his revolutionary and well-informed guidelines. We will always consider these guidelines as the framework for the unity of our heroic people;

2. While expressing our strong revulsion against plundering U.S. imperialism and the Zionist racist criminals, we strongly condemn the nonsensical utterances made by the U.S. Senate, that mouthpiece of imperialism and Zionism. We hereby prefer charges against it in the presence of the oppressed peoples of the world;

3. We consider the entire ruling system of the United States the most criminal against humanity; we consider it as the No 1 enemy of our Islamic revolution; we consider this system a plundering and criminal system.

4. We see the presence of the U.S. fleet in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf an obvious reason for aggression and a show of force by U.S. imperialism against the peoples of the region, especially our plundered people and our Islamic revolution. We strongly demand its departure from the waters of the region;

5. While safeguarding the fruits of the Islamic revolution and sending our boundless greetings to all martyrs of the revolution, we consider our faith as our witness and swear by the blood of our people's martyrs not to stop on the path of the revolution and to uproot imperialism and Zionism;

6. While affirming the anti-imperialist decisions adopted to date by the provisional Islamic Republic Government, we strongly demand that the government take further decisive steps on this path, confiscate all property belonging to affiliated plunderers in favor of the oppressed and shut down all the imperialists' economic channels of influence;

7. We strongly call on the provisional Islamic government to take decisive steps to eliminate and halt all influence by the Eastern or Western superpowers as well as reactionary agents which hinder Iran's revolution, so that our independent and revolutionary revolution might progress and grow;

8. We call on all strata of Iranian Muslims to demonstrate their unity of expression and mobilize against imperialism, Zionism and reaction. We consider the continuation of the revolution at this stage as still further mobilization of all informed Muslim forces against the anti-Islamic and antipopular forces;

9. While affirming and supporting all sentences issued by the Islamic revolutionary courts, sentences enjoying the seal of approval of our nation and a crystallization of the will of our oppressed people, we demand the stability and continuation of these courts in connection with the trial and punishment of all the corrupt, criminals and plunderers in accordance with the guidelines outlined by the iman;

10. We strongly condemn the clamor raised by the plunderers and Zionists in shedding crocodile tears for their ugly servants who have risen in defense of the most prominent corrupt people on earth under the disgraceful pretext of defending human rights. We consider these acts treacherous interferences in our internal affairs;

11. We declare that any government giving asylum to the traitorous shah and other fugitive criminals will be considered an enemy and traitor to our people; such a government shall be responsible for the consequences of such an act;

12. Considering that the name "Israel" has been invented by the Zionists in order to launch aggression against the Palestinian people's homelands, therefore in view of the usurping nature of aggressive Israel and the inhuman tragedies caused by the occupying Zionists in the occupied Palestine, we call on all media and social organs to use the term "occupied Palestine" from now on instead of Israel; and

13. We workers, students and school children announce that we are prepared to take a more active part in mobilization for reconstruction in order to rebuild the country, especially in connection with rural projects. We call on the provisional Islamic Republic government to take fundamental steps to make use of the organized mobilization of all forces.

AFP: Demonstrators Condemn Communism

NC251607 Paris AFP in English 1600 GMT 25 May 79 NC

[Excerpts] Tehran, May 25 (AFP)--Massive anti-American rallies were staged here today for the second day running.

More than 100,000 people marched from Tehran University to the U.S. Embassy in answer to a call from the extreme leftist Cherikha-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq group and other leftist lay movements, while an estimated 50,000 pro-Islamic Iranians organised their own procession.

Leftist demonstrators shouted anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist slogans interspersed with cries of "Death to America."

Iranian religious leaders were able to take heart from another target of protest in today's rally-chants of "Death to Communists"--which for them pinpoints the country's real enemy.

They fear that the main threat to the new Islamic Republic is not posed by the "lackeys" of the ousted regime but by Iranian communists--defined for many as all those who disbelieve in God and Islam.

Anti-communist slogans have been appearing at every Islamic demonstration this month, as the influence of the left, particularly the Cherikha-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq, continues to grow.

Charge Scores Senator Javits

LD261542 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 26 May 79 LD

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Iranian Embassy in Washington has sent a letter to Senator Javits condemning his unwarranted interference in Iran's internal affairs.

AYATOLLAH RAFSANJANI SHOT, UNDERGOES OPERATION

LD252004 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 25 May 79 LD

[Text] We have learned that Ayatollah Hashemi Rafsanjani was shot about an hour ago in front of his home and was wounded in the liver. Fortunately, according to reports from hospital, his general condition is satisfactory and he is undergoing surgery.

The latest report is a medical one which says that Hashemi Rafsanjani was transferred to Shohada Hospital at 2045. He was wounded in the upper and right parts of the abdomen. On arrival his condition was satisfactory, with his blood pressure registering 120 over 70. Due to hemmorhaging, he underwent surgery. Upon medical examination it was noticed that his liver had been damaged, but all else is in good condition. The upper part of the liver has been operated on and his condition, thank God, is satisfactory.

Qom Seminary Issues Statement

LD271800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 May 79 LD

[Text] The Qom seminary has issued a statement regarding an assassination attempt against Hojjat al-Islam Rafsanjani.

While denouncing this anti-Islamic and inhumane conspiracy, and delivering a mortal warning to all infidels and hypocritical mercenaries, whose defeat and notoriety have plunged them into a horrendous insanity, and whose disgusting isolation has impelled them to resort to barbaric revenge, the statement calls upon the provisional Islamic government and the supreme head of the Islamic revolutionary court not to overlook such plots with complacency and to carry out their Islamic duty, namely, to safeguard the gains of the revolution of our noble, heroic, martyr-giving Muslim people to uncover and neutralize the plots hatched by the remnants of the previous regime and defeated hypocrites, as well as to inform the people about their measures with regard to the martyrdom of Major General Qharani and of Professor Motahhari. Failing this, the statement goes on, we would regard it as our Islamic duty, with permission from our aware and decisive leader, Imam Khomeyni, to enter into action directly in a battle against hypocritical and godless plotters.

'Arafat Cables Rafsanjani

JN271925 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 May 79 JN

[Text] His Eminence Hojjat al-Islam Hashemi Rafsanjani has received a cable from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat following the abortive assassination attempt on the life of his eminence.

'Arafat said in his cable: I have received the news of the heinous attempt on your life, which you have dedicated for the glory of Islam and right. I thank God for your escape. Let the aggressive criminal hands be cut off. I pray that God may protect you from any danger.

Khomeyni Message

LD261304 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 26 May 79 LD

[Text] Imam Khomeyni has sent a message to Hashemi Rafsanjani. It reads:

In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. Your Excellency Hojjat al-Islam, zealous struggler, dear Hashemi:

The late Modarres, who was assassinated by the order of Reza Shah, sent a message from hospital saying: "Tell Reza Shah that I am alive." Modarres is alive even now. The men of history are alive to the end of time. The ill-wishers should know that Hashemi is alive because the movement is alive.

The United States and other superpowers should know that our nation is alive. The mammoth rallies during the past 2 or 3 days are witness to the revolution's being alive. With these stupid attempts these people cannot assassinate our Islamic revolution; they cannot assassinate the humanitarian, Islamic personality of Motahhari and Hashemi. No matter how well planned and organized these assassinations may be, the footprints of the superpowers and international criminals may be seen in their ramifications.

The nation should resist these machinations with all its might. It should crush the plots. With all revolutionary vigilance it should find out these criminals and hand them over to revolutionary courts. The Revolutionary Guards and their leaders are duty-bound to protect these worthy revolutionary personalities and should keep an eye on suspect goings and comings, though the persons concerned might object.

The great Islamic nation is determined to continue its Islamic movement and not to allow traitors to interfere in their country.

We call on the great Islamic nations to cooperate in this Islamic movement of Iran's. The hands of the criminals should be cut off from the Islamic realms and from the weak, the oppressed and the poor at large, and the divine promise should be realized thanks to the efforts of the society of the Islamic nations.

I congratulate Hashemi, the fruitful son of Islam, who proceeded along the path of the goal near the brink of martyrdom, and I beseech God Almighty for his health and continued services. And peace be upon him and on God's virtuous slaves.

[Signed] Ruhollah Mosavi Khomeyni.

Islamic Republic Party Statement

LD261315 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 26 May 79 LD

[Text] Following the attempt on the life of Hojjat al-Islam Hashemi Rafsanjani, the following announcement was issued by the Islamic Republic of Iran Party:

In His exalted name. Last night our valued brother Hojjat al-Islam Hashemi Rafsanjani, member of the Central Council of the Islamic Republic Party became the target of an attempt by some evil, black-hearted individuals who in the darkness of the night and under the cover of treachery wanted to take away from the nation one of the brilliant personalities of the Islamic revolution and deprive the people of a devoted and pure soldier. The vigilance and the speed of action of our brother Hashemi Rafsanjani overcame the criminal attempt and the plot did not lead to the crime which the criminals had desired in their black heads. We express fitting gratitude to God for this great bounty.

The Islamic Republic Party finds it necessary to warn all the plotters, all those who cannot live except in darkness and evil, all those mercenary criminals, that self-sacrificing strugglers like Hashemi Rafsanjani, who through the black days of oppression have proved their sincerity and perseverance, will never retreat in the face of such threats. The complete and final sovereignty of Islam and the destruction of any unjust overlordship and the breaking of the hands of the foreigners from the Islamic lands are aims that such threats and plots can never prevent.

In another part of the announcement of the Islamic Republic Party of Iran, the provisional Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the revolutionary prosecutor's office are reminded that the nation wants to know what action has been taken so far toward identifying and punishing the plotters who created the calamity of the martyrdom of Professor Motahhari and what results have been achieved in this respect.

The angry people want to know whether those responsible for last night's incident will also remain for a long time behind the veil of ambiguity.

Finally, we find it necessary to warn all those who try to vilify the brilliant Islamic and popular personalities through wicked allegations that the believing and fond people of Iran, who for many years have recognized and tested the truthful servants and true and self-effacing revolutionaries, are not prepared to bear the continuation of such wicked and dastardly actions. They have the right to put the blame for the crime which has been perpetrated against Hashemi Rafsanjani on those who in the past, too, have shown their hatred and animosity toward this revolutionary and self-sacrificing personality.

Finally, we consider it seemly to inform all the worried sisters and brothers throughout Iran that through God's grace and through the attempts of the physicians and surgeons, at the moment, no danger is threatening Rafsanjani and that our brother's condition is improving.

Tehran: U.S. Behind Attempt

JN262024 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 May 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] Forty-eight hours after the masses' wrath, which erupted as a result of the U.S. Congress' interference in Iran's internal affairs, U.S. imperialism, in collaboration with SAVAK and suspect elements, carried out a heinous and disgraceful crime.

Ayatollah Rafsanjani, aged 45, was the exorbitant price the people paid for his resounding outcry in the face of imperialism and its agents within. Why did they choose Rafsanjani in particular? Because this man sparked off the volcano of popular wrath against the United States on Thursday and Friday.

Forty-eight hours after he delivered his speech at the 17 [words indistinct] square before a large crowd of people who had participated in the Thursday demonstrations, oppressive bullets were waiting for him everywhere. The bullets were aimed at his heart. But owing to the wisdom and sacrifice of his struggling wife, who threw herself on him at the moment of the plot and covered his head and heart to ward off the murderers who tried several times to wrench her away to perpetrate their ugly crime, they failed.

The killers shot him on the right side of his abdomen and fled immediately, leaving beside the bleeding struggler a message saying the attackers belong to the Forqan group, which is opposed to the political role played by the men of religion.

This act follows two similar acts of this group. The question now is: What is Forqan, which is accused of a series of assassinations? Briefly, Forqan is defeatist elements from the right and the left who were in prisons during the former regime. Through temptation the SAVAK managed to buy them in return for releasing them with huge sums of money. Two groups of those agents were formed and directed by SAVAK and U.S. intelligence. The first group is called Forqan and the second Red Twilight.

After the fall of SAVAK, U.S. intelligence, in collaboration with SAVAK masterminds, recognized and recoordinated these two organizations to enable them to play the real role of SAVAK--assassinating and creating confusion inside the Islamic revolution. Having exhausted all ways to circumvent the will of the Muslim Iranian people, imperialism has chosen the path of secret assassination and directed its bayonets primarily toward the struggling ulemas who led the Islamic revolution with patriotic elements from the beginning.

KHOMEYNI DELIVERS SPEECH ON FREEDOM, PLOTS

LD251422 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1120 GMT 25 May 79 LD

[Speech by the Ayatollah Khomeyni in Qom to a group of women representing the Qom Family Protection Organization and a delegation of citizens from Bonab and Azerbaijan, date not specified--recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful:

What a great movement this has been. What a great uprising it was. Everyday we meet with representatives of the various strata, of the various groups of Iranian people. Right now, in this meeting, the respectful ladies of Qom who have worked hard for Islam and the movement and for the upbringing of our society, and also the gentlemen of Bonab, who have come from far away, are assembled together.

Before the uprising this would not have been possible. You had your own course. We had a different course and these gentlemen had yet another course. What a great movement it is that has brought us all together so that we can talk to each other, discuss our problems, express our complaints to each other and also explain the way to remedy these complaints. Perhaps by describing the remedies we can achieve something.

There are many ills. In the past there were more ills, but, thanks be to God, some of them have been corrected. Those who created these great problems for us are the same people who betrayed our country. In doing so they oppressed our ladies more severely than our men. These people, who said that they wanted to serve the ladies in fact oppressed them and turned them back. There was a great oppression of women. Men were also oppressed--all the various strata were oppressed. But thanks be to God, their hands were cut short. I hope that these weak strata who like the worms that twist and turn in the earth and want to destroy the roots of the flowers--I hope that, God willing, they will be destroyed too.

Now we have many ills--ills that are the remnants of the treachery that the former regime committed against us and against our nation. The treachery and the propaganda which they carried out against Islam and against the holy Koran were designed to separate the various strata from the holy Koran. They wanted to alienate our sisters and our brothers from Islam.

Some of these people are still in existence, in different forms. You took the trouble--our men and women took the trouble and poured in the streets. They accepted hardships and shed much blood in order to revive Islam. They shed their blood for the sake of Islam. They volunteered for martyrdom. What our nation wanted--what our nation voted for was an Islamic Republic. Islam was their goal. But now there are strata who want to get rid of Islam, through their writings, through their speeches, through their meetings. This is the greatest ill from which our nation is suffering at the moment and is something about which we are worried.

The nation voted for an Islamic Republic; 95 or 99.5 percent of the people voted for the Islamic Republic, which means that they wanted Islam. If it was only for a republic the people would not have voted like they did. If it was for a democratic republic the people would not have voted like this. In the past the people said such things but they faced defeat. Our nation rose for the sake of Islam. It adopted its way for the sake of Islam. It shed its blood for the sake of Islam. But now there are strata that want to put Islam aside and call for a plain republic. They are frightened of Islam. They ask for a democratic republic.

But all of this is deceit. Those who want to speak behind a veil say democratic Islamic Republic. All this is deceit. All of this is due to the fact that they are frightened of Islam. They are against Islam and see Islam as being contrary to their carnal desires. Be alert. The slightest deviation from the Islamic Republic, any deviation, if there is the slightest deviation from the Islamic Republic it is against your course--it is against the course of Islam.

The Muslims should be vigilant. They should be aware of the parties who do not speak of Islam but instead speak of democracy. There are strata who have nothing to do with Islam. Although they are interested in freedom, they want freedom but without Islam. Our nation must be careful and, at the very least, should not belong to such parties. You have sacrificed your beloved ones for the sake of Islam. And now that you have sacrificed your beloved ones, do you want to take part in anti-Islamic movements? Do you want to waste the blood of your beloved ones?

Be careful. These people want to waste the blood you have shed. Their meetings are against Islam. A few days ago they had many meetings, on some pretext, and their speeches were against Islam. Don't cooperate with them. Muslims, don't cooperate with them. Keep yourselves apart from them. Avoid these people. They want freedom without Islam. This is contrary to your course. You want Islam. We want Islam so that Islam can give us freedom. We don't want freedom without Islam. They want independence without the Koran. We want the Koran. Even if they give us all freedom, all independence, but if they want to take the Koran away we don't want their freedom and independence.

We hate freedom without the Koran. We hate independence without Islam. We hate their saying: Islam without the clergy. Islam without clergy is treason. If they want to destroy Islam, they will first destroy the clergy. Their first step is to say: We want Islam but we do not want the clergy. If the clergy is destroyed, there will be no Islam. Islam has achieved all it has through the efforts of the clergy.

Be alert. Ladies, be alert. Gentlemen, be alert. Set aside your personal problems. Set aside the minor problems. Set aside your needs. Today is not the time to say that I am poor, that I am needy. Today is the time to strengthen Islam. All people at all levels should be alert. The workers should be alert. The farmers should be alert. The bazaaris should be alert. The university people should be alert. The thesis of Islam without clergy means no Islam. This is the first step. Then they throw the books of the clergy in the sea.

Be alert. I draw your attention to this danger, this great danger. We face a great danger. We want forms of freedom. We want a democratic republic. We want independence. What is Islam? What is the (?clergy)? In all their speeches they make no mention of Islam.

If it were not for Islam, you would now be living in hovels or you would be in foreign countries. If you were inside the country you would be living in hovels. In the ruins, and you could not show yourselves. It was Islam that gave you freedom and brought you into the open. Don't rise against Islam.

My dear sisters, my beloved ones. My dear brothers, my beloved ones. Be vigilant. There is a plot being hatched. A great plot is being hatched. There are many plots being hatched. The various strata who have turned their backs on Islam, who never paid any attention to Islam, are now getting together. They should think again. They should think again about their work. They should think again about their meetings.

The nation cannot tolerate these plots. We will not tolerate these plots. These are plots against Islam and against the nation. We allow freedom, but not plots. The meaning of freedom is not that you sit and plot against Islam. Freedom is allowed within the framework of the laws. The religion of our country is Islam. Freedom should be allowed so long as it does not harm Islam. Our constitution defines Islam as the religion of the country.

May God save us from the mischief of the mischiefmakers. May God grant you success. May God grant you health and prosperity. I am grateful to you all and I hope that you may proceed with a strong will, with a decisive will. Greetings to you all.

KHOMEYNI URGES BAZARGAN TO PRESS AHEAD WITH NEW CONSTITUTION

LD261000 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 26 May 79 LD

[Text] In a message addressed to Mehdi Bazargan, prime minister of the provisional Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni has emphasized the need for the new Iranian constitution to be passed as soon as possible. The text of the message is as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Your Excellency Mehdi Bazargan, prime minister of the provisional Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran: It is essential that the struggling Iranian nation should take in hand as soon as possible the future destiny of their realm, should enjoy the fruit of its great Islamic revolution in all social ties and standards, should regain its lost rights and should apply social justice in all the affairs of society. Therefore, will you please speedily make ready and pass through the Revolutionary Council the draft constitution, which the Council for Revolution Projects is engaged in codifying and completing; place the same as soon as possible at the disposal of public opinion so that all competent people and all the sectors of society may, within a limited period which you will specify, offer their proposals and views about it; make arrangements in accordance with the decision reached after consultations between the Revolutionary Council and the government so that the people of every province and those of each of the religious minorities may elect their competent deputies in numbers specified by the Islamic Revolutionary Council and the government and so that a Majlis made up of the people's deputies, bearing in mind all the useful proposals which are offered, may finally study and draw up the articles of the constitution and efforts may be made so that it may provide for all the rights, freedoms and opportunities for the growth, development and independence of this nation on the basis of Islamic tenets, which guarantee the just rights of all persons and for which the overwhelming majority of the Iranian people have given their positive vote.

Following a final study of this constitution in an assemblage of the people's competent deputies, it should be put to the vote and in the course of a final referendum all the units of the nation should directly epxress their acceptance or rejection of it. An attempt should be made so that all these stages should be completed as speedily as possible so that with the election of a president of the republic and the Majlis deputies, the foundation of the republican government may be stabilized.

[Signed] Ruhollah Mosavi Khomeyni.

UAE OIL MINISTER ARRIVES IN TEHRAN

JN281828 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1745 GMT 28 May 75 JN

[Text] UAE Oil Minister Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, who is the current chairman of OPEC, arrived today in Tehran for talks with officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He will later leave for Iraq. Al-'Utaybah, who will discuss oil issues prior to holding the forthcoming OPEC conference, has already visited Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Talks With Bazargan

LD281840 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 May 79 LD

[Text] The UAE oil minister and OPEC secretary general, who is visiting Tehran, this afternoon met and held talks with Hasan Nazih, chairman of the NIOC board and managing director. The OPEC secretary general, accompanied by Hasan Nazih, later met with Engineer Bazargan, the prime minister of the provisional Government of the Iranian Islamic Republic. In the course of the meeting matters relating to the adoption of a coordinated policy in the forthcoming OPEC session were discussed. The OPEC secretary general left Tehran for Baghdad at 1830; he was seen off by Hasan Nazih and a group of senior NIOC officials.

FORMER MAJLIS MEMBERS, DEPUTIES BANNED FROM PUBLIC POSTS

LD261218 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 26 May 79 LD

[Text] The Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Council today passed a single article pertaining to the position of members of the Majlis and the ministers of the hateful Pahlavi regime. The text of the resolution of the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Council is as follows:

In His exalted name. The members of the two majlis and the ministers of the former regime, who served from 5 June 1963 to 11 February shall as a punishment be banned forever from taking up government posts and the right of being elected.

Those who at the behest of Imam Khomeyni resigned from membership of the two majlis or from their ministerial post shall be banned for a period of 3 years, conditional upon their not having committed crimes listed in the regulations of Islamic revolution courts. Should this be otherwise, in addition to this ban they will also be liable to receive the relevant punishments.

ARMY CHIEF INTERVIEWED ON ARMY'S STATUS, FUTURE

LD262032 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1710 GMT 26 May 79 LD

[Interview with Major General Farbod, army chief of staff, on national radio and television on 26 May by unidentified questioner--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] A few days ago the prime minister and a number of Cabinet ministers paid a visit to the army general staff. I would like to ask the reason for this visit. Meanwhile, the same evening a statement was issued to the effect that army officers cannot participate in political parties. Moreover, rumors abound that the army is being led toward its old organs, that should the situation continue, it might move toward a dictatorship. Could you please answer these questions?

[Answer] As you know, His Excellency Bazargan is the head of government and chief executive. Considering his responsibilities during this transitional period, it naturally follows that he must become familiar with all state organs so that he can coordinate and make use of them.

At one stage the Iranian people were under the impression that the Iranian Army lacked equipment. This impression, unfortunately, is shared by other countries as well. I personally have read dozens of articles expressing doubt about the Iranian Army and whether it had any equipment and weapons. During a display which took place in Farvardin, I saw nothing but personnel without uniforms, carrying only slogans. Consequently, I myself began doubting thinking that maybe the revolution had done away with the military budget, throwing it into chaos and leaving it with nothing which could be called an army.

Having discovered [as heard] the existence of the army, having realized and learned of the shape of the former army in the process of the revolution and finally fully recognizing the military position both quantatively and qualitatively and assessing the losses and difficulties, I thought it was time to invite the head of the government, the government and some members of the Revolutionary Council who are responsible for the country's affairs, to come to work with us and see for themselves the changes which have taken place.

I personally believe that the bases on which our army is to befounded include the following: To start with, our country decidedly will be an Islamic Republic; we will have a certain ideology for our future government; and it is on the basis of this ideology that our revolution has been consolidated. Consequently, one of the foundations contributing to the reorganization of the armyis the fact that we have an Islamic ideology. The second point--our country willcome under the umbrella of the nonalined countries; there is no doubt about this. Therefore, the army we are foundingis an army of a nonalined country. There is no doubtthat this is going to have a very important influence in the foundation for expansion of the army.

What we plan to do under the present circumstances is to lead the army toward the nation. This means that the army must belong to tne nation, remain a part of the nation; it is the nation that should inspire the army; the army must recognize itself as an integral part of the nation and determine its policy by receiving inspiration from it, both for the country and the nation.

[Question] In view of what you have said, don't you think that lack of participation by army officers in political parties might once again make one-dimensional figures out of them?

[Answer] If you recall in the early days when I had just been appointed and when we were faced with the referendum, a statement was issued by the general staff to the effect that all army personnel were free like the rest of the country to cast their ballots as they wished. Army personnel, like all other individuals, have the right to participate in determining the future of the country. However, the issue at stake is whether bipartisan prejudices should exist in the army. This is an accepted idea throughout the world and other armies that anyone working for the army has as his primary duty to creat solidarity within the army; for such an army which operates as the country's security force is entirely at the disposal of government; it is dutybound to carry out such a government's decisions--a government which is the representative of the people.

We are not saying that soldiers should not follow any ideology; what we are saying is that soldiers may have their own ideology outside the barracks; however, once inside the barracks the issue of solidarity takes top priority; that is, two officers with two ideologies should have solidarity for the sake of the country's security. If, for the sake of argument, they claim that such and such a president is making certain remarks contrary to what my party says, then I do not believe this argument whould serve the army's interests.

[Question] What do you have to say about rumors to the effect that the same old repressions still exist in the army barracks?

[Answer] I really have no understanding of such "repression." You can see for yourself that our homafaran [military technicians] take part in street demonstrations while still in uniform. Our revolution has brought with it freedom, and this freedom has even spread into the army barracks.

The army general staff has a council today; I had this approved 2 days ago by the Council of Ministers. This council is made up of a central nucleus, comprising the best officers, the most intellectual officers. I am planning to invite all the country's political party leaders, all journalist, anyone who is capable of contributing any idea toward the renovation of the army--I invite them to come here and have a dialog with us. We have no prejudice as to who they are or where they come from; any Iranian who has any thought on the future of the army may take part.

[Question] As you know, we are in a transitional period; our government is provisional and all our work is provisional. We have passed from an established former regime, a regime which was toppled, and want to attain an established future government. During this period, if we do not make haste to determine our military, national and government positions; if this period is prolonged, then there is a possiblity that the counter-revolutionaries might reawaken, might come out of their dizziness and then create trouble for us. Two examples of such acts, having a military nature, manifested themselves recently. In practical terms, as army chief of staff, I still must hear about any activity which might attract our attention to the fact that we are facing such individual or individuals. However, according to rumors and reports we have received, these individuals are receiving certain sums of money outside the country. They are planning to create bases outside our borders in order to interfere in our country. Obviously these things are quite natural; in present circumstances these people will not give up until we have proper stability.

These two persons are not the only ones abroad; right now there are thousands inside the country who are armed or are without weapons; these people are hatching plots against our revolution. All this demonstrates that counterrevolutionaries are still active; that they are still looking for opportunities; that the counterrevolutionaries will attack if they see us weak. That is why I say the army's renovation must take place as soon as possible. Once the country achieves its final positions, then these people shall melt away automatically. However what is definite is that, as manifested before, the army is prepared at present to withstand these plots.

TEHRAN REPORTS FURTHER ON SENTENCING, EXECUTIONS

Two Homosexuals Executed

LD262347 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2131 GMT 26 May 79 LD

[Text] The following statement has been issued by Tehran Islamic Revolutionary Court:

Once again, in order to cleanse the country of criminals, the revolutionary court has sentenced two lawbreakers to execution by firing squad.

Some time ago, two persons, named Musa Ashrafi and Esma'il Neysari, who had been charged with committing a homosexual act on a youth in Khorramdareh in Zanjan, who subsequently committed suicide, were handed over to the court. The court met at 1800 on 26 May. After investigating the case, the court sentenced them to death.

Former Commander Sentenced

LD262125 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 26 May 79 LD

[Text] The first bench of the Tehran Islamic Revolutionary Court held two separate sessions this morning and this afternoon to deal with the charges preferred against two persons involved in the massacre and torture of the struggling and justice-seeking people of Tehran and Varamin.

During the first session were heard the charges brought against Lt Col Ezzatollah Khavarifar, son of Gholam-Hoseyn, from Shahi, and former commander of Battalion 335 of the national defense, group 33 of Jey artillery, stationed in Tehran Military Governorate, District 3. He was charged with issuing orders for a massacre and involvement in shootings resulting in a number of deaths on 11 February 1979.

The second accused, police 2d Lt Daryush Ayaz, son of 'Abbas, from Abadan, was charged with beating and torturing a number of strugglers and the faithful in Varamin as well as helping to crush demonstrators in Tehran. After two trial sessions, the court handed down the following sentences: Col Ezzatollah Khavarifar was sentenced to death, on charges of issuing orders for a massacre and involvement in shootings; the sentence is to be carried out within the next few hours. Second Lieutenant Ayaz was sentenced to 3 years in prison and permanent dismissal from military and civil services on charges of beating a number of strugglers and the faithful in Varamin and helping to crush demonstrators in Tehran.

Pahlavi 'Minion' Executed

LD261555 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 26 May 79 LD

[Text] Mashhad's Islamic Revolutionary Court issued its verdict today on four criminal minions of the hateful Pahlavi regime. In accordance with this verdict Da'ud Samadi, better known as Dr 'Ala'i, the head of the assault section of the so-called Joint Counter-subversion Committee and supervisor of the committee's mobile squads, was executed by firing squad at dawn today.

INA: Military Officers Executed

JN272006 Baghdad INA in English 1840 GMT 27 May 79 JN

[Text] Tehran, INA--Three military men were shot by a firing squad in Tehran, Esfahan and Neyshabur today after having been condemned on charge of killing and torturing citizens.

They were Col Izzatulla Khawri, battalion commander who was working with the military governor of Tehran; Lt Feridoun Farsi, a former SAVAK officer in Esfahan; and NCO Qouraish, a gendermare element in Neyshabur charged with the murder of a citizen and the torture of others. The revolutionary courts also passed sentences on others including whipping in public.

Meanwhile the public prosecutor of the Islamic revolutionary tribunal called on citizens in Tehran to provide whatever available evidence and documents on 30 defendants from among officials of the old regime.

They include 16 persons former members of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate house of the old regime.

More Officers Executed

LD290852 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 29 May 79 LD

[Text] The first bench of the Tehran Islamic Revolutionary Court went into session at 1600 yesterday to consider the case of those accused of being responsible for the killings in Sar Chashmeh on 1 December last year. The trial continued until 0100 last night. Eventually, after deliberation and investigation, the outcome was announced as follows:

1st Lt Mohammad Hoseyn Rohani, commander of the company in 359 Battery, artillery section, Imperial Guard division;

2d Lt Hoseyn Gholami, officer of the company in 359 Battery, artillery section, Imperial Guard division;

2d Sgt Mohammad Reza Zarbani-Farahani, NCO in the above-mentioned battery; and

Privates Ahmad Samadi-Lolahchini and 'Alireza Mohammadi-Tudasti were all sentenced to death.

The death sentence handed down on these five traitors was carried out immediately.

At the same time Maj Sirus Peyda, former commander of the artillery battery of the Imperial Guard division, was sentenced to 10 years' corrective imprisonment.

INDIA

ARAB DIPLOMATS CLAIM SABOTAGE OF TIES WITH GOVERNMENT

BK251520 Hong Kong AFP in English 1455 GMT 25 May 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 25 May (AFP)--Arab ambassadors based in New Delhi have warned the Indian Government against a "hidden hand" which was actively trying to destroy Indo-Arab relations by organising attacks against Arab diplomats, it was disclosed here today.

Moroccan Ambassador Abdelhadi Saadani, acting as spokesman for the Arab envoys, charged that this "evil force" was also encouraging hatred of the Indian Muslims by other communities.

In a press statement issued here, Mr Saadani said the envoys, who discussed the problem at a special meeting yesterday, feared that the "hidden hand" was working with the double aim of forcing India to follow a policy of appeasing Zionists and to accomplish the "extermination of our brother Muslims in India." Mr Saadani would not identify the "hidden hand" and said it was for the Indian Government totake action to uncover it.

Mr Saadani claimed that diplomats of Egypt, Jordan, Algeria and Morocco had been "victims of all kinds of defamatory statements and even of physical attacks" during recent weeks. He suspected that "a certain section of the Indian press" was playing an "important role" in the matter. The ambassador noted, in this connection, a report appearing in the English daily, "INDIAN EXPRESS", on May 12 which accused a Moroccan diplomat, Mr Fares, of drunken behaviour and assault of staff members of a local hospital. Mr Saadani denied that Mr Fares was drunk and charged that, on the other hand, the doctor in charge of the hospital had organised an attack on the diplomat who was "physically manhandled", his diplomatic card taken away and then handed over to the police. A rejoinder sent to the newspaper was not published by it, he added.

Government Reply

BK271034 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 27 May 79 BK

[Text] The government's deep distress was today conveyed to the Moroccan ambassador in New Delhi on his statement containing unwarranted allegations about the treatment of Muslims in India. The ambassador, Mr Abdelhadi Saadani, was called to the Foreign Office and told that the government deplores the statement which was issued by him on Friday [25 May] and published in today's papers. He was also asked to give details about the so-called "hidden hand" which, according to his statement, is working against Indo-Arab friendship.

Mr Saadani clarified that his statement did not reflect the views of the Arab ambassadors. He expressed his apology and said he had no intention to criticize conditions in India, much less the treatment of Muslims. He said his objective was to point out there there are some forces attempting to disrupt India's friendly relations with the Arab world.

RAM LEAVES FOR BULGARIA, ROMANIA, UK VISITS

BK280348 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 May 79 BK

[Text] The deputy prime minister and defense minister, Mr Jagjivan Ram, left New Delhi this morning on a 12-day foreign tour. He will visit Bulgaria, Romania and stop over in Britain on his way back.

The deputy prime minister was seen off at the airport by ambassadors of Bulgaria and Romania, the three service chiefs and several others.

MP'S DEMAND RECOGNITION OF HENG SAMRIN REGIME IN KAMPUCHEA

BK281256 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 28 May 79 BK

[Text] The All-India Peace and Solidarity Organization has issued a statement signed by 141 members of Parliament demanding recognition of the Kampuchean Government of Mr Heng Samrin. They have urged the government to immediately accord full diplomatic recognition to the new regime.

The members belong to various political parties and include Mr Madhu Limaye, Mr Bhola Paswan Shastri, Mr V.P. Sathe, Mr Harkishan Singh Surjeet and Mr Bhupesh Gupta.

CONGRESS-I SUPPORTERS CLASH WITH POLICE IN WEST BENGAL

BK281400 Hong Kong AFP in English 1329 GMT 28 May 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 28 May (AFP)--Police and supporters of Indira Gandhi's opposition Congress faction clashed today in Contai, a coastal town in Midnapore district in eastern India's West Bengal state, a few hours before Prime Minister Morarji Desai's arrival there to address a public meeting, reports reaching here said.

Followers of the former prime minister's Congress Indira (I) Party had organised a demonstration to express "public indignation" against the setting up of special courts to try alleged excesses by persons during Mrs Gandhi's emergency rule.

Reporting from Contai, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA said Congress (I) workers tried to force shop owners in busy Rajabazar commercial complex to pull down their shutters. Police intervention was greeted by sticks and brickbats in which a dozen police personnel and some shopowners were injured. Twelve persons were arrested, including two Congress (I) leaders.

Though the situation was stated to be under control, strong police contingents were patrolling the town and guarding vulnerable areas. Police alleged Congress (I) supporters burst bombs and ransacked shops, the agency added.

PAKISTAN FOREIGN SECRETARY ARRIVES ON 4-DAY VISIT

BK281558 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 May 79 BK

[Text] The Pakistan foreign secretary, Mr Shahnawaz, arrived in New Delhi this evening on a 4-day visit. He was received at the airport by the secretary, Foreign Ministry, Mr U.S. Bajpai. Mr Shahnawaz told newsmen that he is carrying a special message from President Ziaul Haq for the prime minister, Mr Morarji Desai.

Shahnawaz on Nonelined Entry

BK290404 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 May 79 BK

[Text] The Pakistan foreign secretary, Mr Shahnawaz, has said he would seek India's support for his country's bid to enter the nonalined movement. He was speaking to newsmen at Delhi airport on his arrival yesterday on a 4-day visit to India.

He said Pakistan has already given termination notices to the concerned countries for ending its military alliances with them. Mr Shahnawaz, who was accompanied by two high ranking Foreign Office officials, was received among others by Mr U.S. Bajpai, secretary in the External Affairs Ministry. He is carrying a special message from President Ziaul Haq to Prime Minister Desai.

Mr Shahnawaz said the process of normalization of relations between India and Pakistan is going on well, but the pace of normalization depends on mutual understanding, he added.

During his stay in the capital, the Pakistan foreign secretary will have an exchange of views on matters of mutual interests.

PAKISTAN

TWO AFGHANS ARRESTED WITH EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS

BK261026 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 24 May 79 BK

[Text] APP [ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN] reports that the Peshawar police seized 114 detonators and 24 feet of fuse wire from two Afghan nationals in Shoba Bazar today. The two Afghans were taken into custody.

AFGHAN SUPPORT FOR NONALINED MEMBERSHIP SOUGHT

BK271020 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 27 May 79 BK

[Text] Pakistan is trying to enlist Afghanistan's support to become a fullfledged member of the nonalined movement. According to Kabul radio, a letter in this connection from the Pakistan president, Gen Ziaul Haq, was delivered to the Afghan president, Mr Nur Mohammad Taraki, in Kabul yesterday. The letter was brought by a special envoy of the Pakistan president.

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR 12-DAY /ISIT TO PRC

BK271640 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 May 79 BK

[Text] An 8-member high-level delegation led by the minister for food and agriculture, Rear Adm Mohammad Fazil Janjua, left Islamabad for Beijing today on a 12-day official visit to China. The delegation will acquaint itself with the great progress achieved by China in the field of agriculture.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISER RETURNS AFTER VISIT TO IRAQ

BK271645 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 May 79 BK

[Text] The adviser for foreign affairs, Mr Agha Shahi, returned to Karachi today after a 2-day visit to Iraq. The visit was at the invitation of the Iraqi foreign minister, Mr Sa'dun Hammadi. While in Baghdad Mr Agha Shahi held extensive discussions with Mr Hammadi and Iraqi vice president, Mr Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, on matters of mutual interest and of mutual concern in the context of prevailing regional and international situation. A Foreign Office spokesman said that the visit of the adviser for foreign affairs is part of the continuing process of close and mutual consultations between Pakistan and brotherly Arab countries. The spokesman expressed hope that high-level links will be established between the two countries. He said Mr Agha Shahi has invited the Iraqi foreign minister to visit Pakistan. The invitation has been accepted.